THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

No. 2357.—VOL. LXXXIV. SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1884. WITH TWO SUPPLEMENTS SIXPENCE. BY POST, 6½D.

1. Priest, full attire. 2. Woman, showing plaited hair. 3. Warrior Chieftain. 4. Monk, wearing cowl. 5. Ordinary Soldier. 6. Southern Woman, with head-dress. 7. Head, with hair plaited.

SKETCHES OF ABYSSINIAN COSTUMES.

KING JOHN OF ABYSSINIA ON HIS THRONE.

BIRTH.

On the 16th inst., at 49, Montagu-square, W., the Lady Lilias Sherbrooke, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On April 29, at St. Cuthbert's, Governor's Bay, Canterbury, N.Z., by the Most Rev. the Primate of New Zealand, assisted by the Ven. Archdeacon Harris and the Rev. E. Watts, the Rev. Robert Fitzhugh Garbett, third son of the late Ven. James Garbett, Archdeacon of Chichester, &c., to Edith, third daughter of T. H. Potts, of Ohinitahi.

DEATHS.

On the 22nd ult., at Rawul Pindee, Punjaub, Annie Forde, third daughter of General sir Henry Norman, K.C.B.

On the 11th inst., suddenly, at Brighton, General Sir Edward Warde, K.C.B., Royal Horse Artillery, aged 73.

*** *The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, is Five Shillings for each announcement.*

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 28.

SUNDAY, JUNE 22.

Second Sunday after Trinity.
Morning Lessons: Judges iv.; Acts, v. 17. Evening Lessons: Judges v. or vi. 11; II. Peter ii.
St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m.; 3.15 p.m., Bishop Piers Claughton; 7 p.m., Rev. H. D. Spence.
Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m., the Dean of Winchester (to Royal Naval Artillery Volunteers); 3 p.m., Archdeacon Farrar; 7 p.m., the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford.
St. James's, noon.
Whitehall, 11 a.m., Rev. W. W. Merry; 3 p.m., Rev. Canon Curteis, Boyle Lecture.
Savoy, 11.30 a.m., Rev. H. White, the Chaplain; 4 p.m., Rev. Canon Body (for Church Penitentiary Association); 7, Rev. C. J. Martyn.

MONDAY, JUNE 23.

New moon, 5.33 a.m.
Geographical Society, 8.30 p.m.
British Museum, South Kensington, Swiney Lecture, 4 p.m., Dr. R. Traquair on Amphibia and Reptiles (especially Fossil Forms), and on Wednesday and Friday.
International Arbitration and Peace Association, Westminster Palace Hotel, anniversary, 2.30 p.m.
Fine-Art Society, exhibition of Mr. Du Maurier's works.
Caledonian Asylum, fancy dress ball, Willis's Rooms.

TUESDAY, JUNE 24.

Nativity of St. John the Baptist.
Midsummer Day. Quarter day.
Easter Term ends.
Horticultural Society, 11 a.m.
Statistical Society, anniversary, 4 p.m.
Anthropological Institute, 8 p.m.
Royal Counties Agricultural Society Show, Guildford (four days).
Races: Bilbury, Newcastle.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25.

Charles I., King of Wurtemberg, accession, 1864.
Geological Society, 8 p.m.
Royal Society of Literature, 8 p.m.
United Service Institution, 3 p.m., Lieut.-Col. Moody on Recruiting.
Society of Arts, anniversary, 4 p.m.
Linnean Society, Sir John Lubbock, the President's conversazione, 9 p.m.
Midland Union of Natural History Societies, annual meeting, Peterborough (two days).
Albert Hall, grand concert.
Doncaster Agricultural Society Show (two days).
Stockbridge Races.
Barnstaple Horticultural, Dog, and Poultry Show (two days).

THURSDAY, JUNE 26.

Society of Antiquaries, 8.30 p.m.
Zoological Society's Gardens, Davis Lecture, 5 p.m., Professor Parker on Hedgehogs, Moles, and Shrews.
Suffolk Agricultural Association Show, Ipswich (two days).
Royal Yorkshire Yacht Club Regatta, Hull (two days).
Orphan Asylum, Wanstead, anniversary.

FRIDAY, JUNE 27.

Botanic Society, lecture, 4 p.m.
Quekett Microscopical Club, 8 p.m.
United Service Institution, 3 p.m., Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Daly on the Punjaub Frontier Force.
Browning Society, Evening Entertainment, University College.

SATURDAY, JUNE 28.

Queen Victoria crowned, 1838.
Physical Society, 3 p.m.
Botanic Society, 3.45 p.m.
Royal Masonic Institution for Boys festival at the Crystal Palace.
Races: Alexandra Park.

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

Lat. 51° 28′ 6″ N.; Long. 0° 18′ 47″ W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

Day.		Daily mean of Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Thermom. Maximum, read at 10 P.M.	Thermom. Minimum, read at 10 P.M.	Wind. General Direction.	Wind. Movement in 24 hours.	Rain in 24 hours, ending 10 A.M. local morning.
		Inches.	°	°	°	0-10	°	°		Miles.	In.
June	8	29·774	51·9	45·5	·80	9	56·8	46·8	NNW.	132	0·130
	9	29·886	50·5	44·2	·81	9	57·5	45·3	NW. N.	162	0·010
	10	30·086	54·8	44·8	·71	8	62·6	48·2	N.	108	0·000
	11	30·160	57·0	52·6	·86	8	63·6	46·7	N. NW.	165	0·000
	12	30·279	63·2	50·6	·66	2	72·6	54·3	SW. W.	135	0·000
	13	30·192	65·8	54·7	·69	2	77·9	51·6	E. NW. S.	75	0·000
	14	30·234	59·9	45·8	·62	2	66·2	55·0	NNE. NE.	318	0·000

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten o'clock a.m.:—

Barometer (in inches) corrected ..	29·740	29·848	30·065	30·151	30·273	30·208	30·215
Temperature of Air	52·0°	49·9°	59·7°	60·9°	66·5°	65·4°	62·4°
Temperature of Evaporation ..	50·0°	49·0°	52·2°	51·0°	56·9°	58·7°	57·4°
Direction of Wind	NNW.	NW.	N.	NW.	N.	N.	N.

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(By order) J. P. KNIGHT, General Manager.

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London, May, 1884. WILLIAM BURT, General Manager.

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For particulars see Time Tables and Programmes issued by the Company.
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Managers, Messrs. Alfred Reed and Corney Grain.—NOBODY'S FAULT, written by Arthur Law; Music by Hamilton Clarke. An Entirely New Musical Sketch, by Mr. Corney Grain, entitled SHOWS OF THE SEASON. Concluding with a New second Part, entitled A TERRIBLE FRIGHT, written by Arthur Law; Music by Corney Grain.—MORNING PERFORMANCES every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at Three; EVENINGS, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at Eight. Admission, 1s. and 2s.; Stalls, 3s. and 5s. Booking Office open Ten to Six. No Charge for Booking. ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham-place.

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LIGHTED BY ELECTRICITY. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Edgar Bruce.
EVERY EVENING, at 8.15, a New Play, in a prologue and three acts, by Hugh Conway and Comyns Carr, entitled CALLED BACK, adapted from Mr. Hugh Conway's very successful story of that name. Mr. Kyrle Bellew, Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. H. G. Lethcourt, Mr. Frank Rodney, Mr. L. S. Dewar, Mr. R. de Cordova, Mr. S. Caffrey, and Mr. G. W. Anson, Miss Lingard, Miss Tilbury, Miss Caroline Parkes. New scenery by Messrs. Bruce Smith, W. Perkins, and W. B. Spong. Costumes by Harrison. Doors open 7.30; overture 8. Carriages, 11. No fees. Box-Office open daily from 11 to 5. Seats may be booked a month in advance.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Mr. HENRY IRVING, Sole Lessee and Manager.—250th PERFORMANCE. To-night, and following nights, at Eight, will be presented by the Lyceum Company Shakspeare's Comedy MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING. Benedick, Mr. Henry Irving; Beatrice, Miss Ellen Terry. Box-Office (Mr. J. Hurst) open daily.—Lyceum.

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The New Programme crowned with complete success.
EVERYTHING FROM BEGINNING TO END ENTIRELY NEW.
New Overture—New and Beautiful Songs;
New Jokes—New Operatic Selections; and New Comic Skits.
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THE WHOLE OF THE LEADING PAPERS
unanimous in pronouncing the Entertainment of the
MOORE AND BURGESS MINSTRELS unapproachable.
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MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and SATURDAY, Three and Eight.
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ADMISSION, 1s. Illustrated Catalogue, 1s. Season Tickets, 5s. ALFRED EVERILL, Sec.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1884.

Another granddaughter of Queen Victoria was married on Saturday last. The Imperial pageant at St. Petersburg which preceded the marriage of the Grand Duke Sergius, a younger brother of the Czar, to Princess Elizabeth of Hesse, of course surpassed in splendour the comparatively humble wedding ceremony in Darmstadt a few weeks ago. The procession from the railway station to the Winter Palace was more gorgeous than anything that has been seen in Russia since the Imperial coronation, a year ago. Over a mile of the route was distributed a vast military force such as England can rarely bring together, behind which, at a respectful distance, were ranged the citizens of St. Petersburg, who gave the bride an enthusiastic welcome. As the Princess loyally adheres to the Protestant faith of her revered mother, there was a double ceremony in the Winter Palace. It is not often that two ladies of a reigning family are married within so short an interval of each other; and, according to the Court gossip of the Russian capital, the youngest daughter of the late Princess Alice, "a charming child of twelve years, is already pointed to as the future Empress of Russia." But, apart from such recondite speculations, the family ties that unite the Sovereign Houses of Europe are every year becoming closer and more numerous; and, if conducive to the preservation of peace, they are international blessings.

Royal alliances have not, however, always tended to avert Continental wars, and Prince Bismarck is just now a more potent pacificator than all the crowned heads of Europe. A bitter quarrel which has arisen between two of the Balkan States, Servia and Bulgaria, has been promptly adjusted by the intervention of the veteran German statesman. His moderating influence is felt by the French Republic, but, unhappily, cannot be extended to every phase of her external relations. M. Ferry has discovered that the French people, though dreading any disturbance of the peace of Europe, are far from hostile to a judicious realisation of Gambetta's policy of "colonial expansion." The cost of the conquest of the kingdom of Annam is cheerfully borne because of the glory it has reflected on the arms of France. A similar course is to be pursued in Madagascar, where a substantial military force is about to co-operate with the fleet in establishing a protectorate on the north-west coast, with a view to establish a great naval station at Passandara Bay, and to seize the adjacent coal-mines, which will give France the command of the Indian Ocean. Then our restless neighbours have formed a settlement at Obock, where the Red Sea flows into the Gulf of Aden, by way of guarding southern approaches to the Suez Canal. More recently we have heard of projected French encroachments in Morocco, which have excited much disquietude in Spain and Italy; but our neighbours repudiate any designs upon the northern coast opposite to Gibraltar, and declare that they only want a rectification of the Algerian frontier. These several enterprises are not likely to be remunerative, and may tend to weaken French influence abroad; but they cannot be regarded without concern in England, whose interests are more or less disturbed by all these aggressions.

So far, however, as regards the Egyptian negotiations between the two countries, there is no cause for disquietude. M. Waddington and Lord Granville have, after prolonged discussions, come to an amicable arrangement, in which the French Minister is said to have made considerable concessions in order to satisfy British susceptibilities. The settlement has been laid before the five Great Powers which accepted the Law of Liquidation, and will be submitted to Parliament on Monday next. As to the main features of the agreement, there is no doubt we are at our will to occupy Egypt till January 1, 1888, and longer still if such be the wish of any one of the five Powers, and the *Caisse de la Dette*, over which an Englishman will preside, is to exercise the functions of financial audit. The question of the proposed English loan of £8,000,000 to Egypt, and the payment of the four per cent interest, is reserved for the Conference, which will have to decide what sacrifices the bondholders must make for the payment of interest on the new loan. It is taken for granted that a vote of censure on the agreement with France will be moved by the Opposition, the issue of which will depend upon the extent to which her Majesty's Ministers will be able to show that the finances and the government of Egypt do not pass under the control of an International body. If they have actually surrendered, as is alleged, the exclusive rights of England so long as she is supreme in the valley of the Nile, the protracted negotiations between the two countries must have been a wretched abortion.

For our information as to the course of events in the Soudan, it is always to be remembered that we are dependent upon the reports of Arab scouts and fugitives. None of them, however, represent General Gordon as being in any danger at Khartoum. But the rumoured capture of Berber and the massacre of its garrison is credited by the Governor of Dongola, who is himself threatened by the followers of the Mahdi, and will probably have to beat a hasty retreat. The tide of invasion is rolling towards Upper Egypt, but at Assouan, which is being strongly fortified, is encamped nearly the whole of General Wood's Egyptian army—a force that may be effective behind fortifications—and several gun-boats patrol the Nile to reassure the neighbouring population. The danger of an invasion of Egypt cannot be very imminent, for the Home Government are making preliminary arrangements for sending out railway plant for the construction of a military line from Souakim to Berber.

Holland and Belgium alike have become objects of European interest. The health of the King of the Netherlands is very infirm, and his heir, the Prince of Orange, lately stricken down by typhoid fever, still hovers between life and death. Thus the perplexing question of the succession to the Dutch throne comes up in a very serious form. In Belgium the Liberals, who have so long ruled the country, were signally defeated at the recent elections, and the Clericals have regained their ascendancy in the Chamber of Deputies. This deplorable result is due less to a reaction in favour of Ultramontanism than to culpable divisions among the Liberals. The prudent and progressive Cabinet of M. Frere-Orban has been supplanted by one under M. Malou, the fanatical opponent of the liberal Education Act, which has now been in operation for several years. Such is the fruit of the intolerance of the extreme Liberals, who, bent on revolutionary changes, now find themselves saddled with the despotic yoke of the Romish hierarchy, and in danger of losing the results of eight years of beneficent legislation.

The indefatigable Vice-President of Council was able to make a very satisfactory statement to the House of Commons on Monday night. Though Mr. Mundella had to make the large demand of more than three millions sterling for the Education Department, he was able to show that the money was a good investment. Taking the attendance at all our public schools, there are more than five millions of children under instruction—one sixth of the population—and the percentage of average attendance, though much lower than in some Continental countries, has risen to 73·1 per cent. The Board School system, being supported by the rates, is a formidable competitor to the denominational system, but after fourteen years of such rivalry two thirds of the population are still educated in voluntary schools. The Education Estimates have never been more keenly discussed than they were on Monday night, and the debate brought out two facts—that the National Society finds increasing difficulty in maintaining its ground in the face of the rate-supported schools; and that the complaint of overpressure is more applicable to teachers than to scholars. There is no doubt, however, that elementary education is now within reach of the poorest in the land, and that Mr. Mundella is not extravagant in his statement that "the Department has made a steady progress all along the line."

The Parliamentary experience of last week has not daunted, however much it may have vexed, the ardent champions of female enfranchisement. The stern fiat of the Prime Minister brought about a novel transformation scene. It was understood that 150 Liberal members had given in their adhesion to the principle of woman suffrage, but when the division was taken on Mr. Woodall's resolution, only 33 of them went into the lobby in his support, and he received the unexpected accession of 98 Conservatives. Though the clause was rejected by the large majority of 136, the decision can hardly be said to have turned on the real merits of the question. The enthusiastic meeting held at St. James's Hall on Tuesday night decided that an appeal shall be made to the House of Lords to reverse the vote of the representative Chamber. We venture to doubt the wisdom of such tactics. Apparently the Peers will be more anxious to reject the Franchise Bill altogether than to send it back to the Commons with the rejected clause inserted. Woman's suffrage is sure to be conceded eventually, and all the sooner if it is not mixed up with party politics.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

The Royal Albert Hall, with a couple of thousand more spectators in it than were actually present, would have offered, at four p.m. on Tuesday, June 17, a truly imposing spectacle, and one worthy of the occasion, which was the "inauguration" by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales of the juries who are to make the awards at the International Health Exhibition. Purists may object to such a ceremony as that performed on Tuesday being styled an "inauguration," seeing that there were no augurs present; but, as it happens that "inauguration" is defined in the latest dictionaries (and the latest dictionaries *must* be right) as "the act of solemnly or formally commencing or introducing anything of weight or dignity, or any movement, course of action, *public exhibition*, and the like," "inauguration," perhaps, may be allowed to pass as adequately explanatory of the object of the assemblage in the Royal Albert Hall.

The audience was too thin: of that there could be no doubt. The greater number of the boxes were so many black holes, dismal and untenanted; and the lower grades of stalls were so poorly filled that with their red backs and white numbers they caused the circumference of the hall to assume the aspect of a colossal roulette wheel. Moreover, by some perversity of arrangement, a great multitude of outsiders, admitted to the hall from the Health Exhibition, and who would have advantageously filled the stalls and the arena, had been as pitilessly "skied" in the topmost gallery as though they had been uninfluential painters at the Royal Academy Exhibition. "Don't waste him," cried the "bhoys" in the Dublin theatre, when a brawny coal porter, victorious in single combat, proposed to throw his antagonist from the gallery into the pit. "Don't waste him! Kill a fiddler with him." The Albert Hall authorities happily killed no fiddlers; but they wasted a large crowd on Tuesday.

The Prince, with whom was his eldest son, looked well, and, as he always does, spoke sensibly, briefly, and to the point. Of course he was enthusiastically greeted. Prior to the Royal speech, the auditory were favoured with an address on the laws of health and the preventability of disease by Sir James Paget. This lay sermon was full of wise and cogent things. It contained many passages of really splendid eloquence, and it was delivered in singularly melodious and persuasive tones. Unfortunately the profusion was a great deal too long, and, it is to be feared, was very imperfectly audible—if it was audible at all—to a considerable portion of the spectators. Lord Reay, in presenting the foreign Commissioners to the Prince, spoke both sonorously and gracefully.

For several minutes during the delivery of Sir James Paget's masterly oration a Human Baby—as Mr. Chadband might say—was completely master of the situation. The tiny despot had enthroned itself in some remote portion of the topmost gallery, and there, utterly defiant of its parents and guardians, its godfathers and godmothers, and its nursemaid, it howled and squalled, roared and yelled, shrieked and screeched, until half the ladies on the platform were tittering, and the male grandees were looking "very straight down their noses." That baby never caught the Speaker's eye; but it had assuredly the whole ear of the House. I have a noisy little dog at home, and we sometimes wonder that so much bark can come out of such a very small beast; but I would back that Albert Hall baby to bawl down all the four-footed denizens of the Isle of Dogs in the days when our old English Kings kept their hounds there. Why did not the organist at the Hall pull out the trumpet stop, and try to silence that appalling infant. After a while, it was suddenly silent. Perhaps a strong detachment of police had been sent for to remove it, or the Life Guards from Knightsbridge barracks had been called out. As for the band of Prince Bismarck's Cuirassiers, the baby, I feel certain, would, by sheer force of lungs, have silenced all the instruments of those brazen-casqued musicians.

A champagne firm at Epernay having offered, some months since, prizes for the five best poems on the subject of champagne, eleven hundred poetic compositions were sent in; and the jury of selection awarded the first prize, value one thousand francs, to Citizen Clovis Hugues, the well-known Red Republican deputy for Marseilles.

It will be curious to read what Citizen Clovis Hugues has to say about the effervescing beverage which was dubbed a "joyeux poison" by Béranger, who, for the rest, sings rather contemptuously of champagne; reserving his most dulcet numbers for Chambertin and Romanée, Beaune, Volnay, Pomard, and Moulin-à-Vent. Champagne is, undeniably, the aristocrat's wine; the wine of *grands seigneurs* and *petites maîtresses*, and *fermiers généraux*. Citizen Clovis Hugues may be inclined to hold convivially with the opinion of M. Edmond Donvé in the famous song of "L'Vin à Quat' Sous," composed in 1837:—

> L' étiquette accompagne
> Le pomard à cent sous,
> J' trouve dans l' vin à quat' sous
> La gaîté du champagne.

But the Bacchanalian anthology of our neighbours has been endowed with a really graceful and tender lyric, written, in 1846, by that true *chansonnier* M. Gustave Nadaud. Scarcely less delicately sparkling than the delicious "Ma Normandie" (which, if France had only a single province, would be the French "Home, Sweet Home"), is the ballad "Le Champagne," beginning—

> Beau prisonnier, dont les échos fidèles
> Ont retenu les chants et la gaîté,
> A tes esprits je vais rendre les ailes;
> Viens respirer l' air et la liberté.

I remember meeting (to my great delight) M. Gustave Nadaud in 1877 at M. Gambart's marble villa, surrounded by palms, at Nice. Our host, with the *chansonnier*, and a famous singer, sate up the whole night—it was all too short; and the songs were many; and there was a good deal of rare *crûs* of bordeaux drunk out of little tumblers. Very beautiful did the palm-trees and the orange-trees and the Mediterranean Sea look in the morning. And then M. Gambart showed us an exquisite little gem—a picture by Alma Tadema of Horace and Virgil "making a night of it" with Mæcenas. M. Nadaud sang many of his own charming songs that memorable night; but he did not favour us with "Le Champagne." Who wants to hear anything about champagne on the Mesogeian shore?

In a notice in the *Daily News* of the death of Mr. Charles Braham, the writer seems to be under the impression that Augustus Braham, the second son of the famous tenor, John Braham, has also "joined the majority." Unless I am very much mistaken, Major Augustus Braham is still in the land of the living. I should be very pleased "should this meet his eye," and if he will let me know that I am right in my surmise.

"Gerrymandering," after having been (through the kindness of my correspondents) thoroughly thrashed out in this page, has meandered into the *Times*, to which "M. P." writes to say that he has been "horrified to hear so well informed a politician as Lord George Hamilton speak of 'Mr. Jerry Mander.'" Then "M. P." proceeds to tell the readers of the *Times* all about Governor Elbridge Gerry and the manipulation, in 1811, of the electoral districts of the State of Massachusetts. "M. P." likewise points out that the initial "G" in "gerrymander" is not soft as "jerry," but hard as in "governor." But he does not take any notice of the curious statement made by Bartlett, and quoted in the latest edition of Webster, that although the introduction of the process of "cooking" electoral maps was attributed to the influence of Governor Elbridge Gerry, "it is now known that he was opposed to the measure." Well, was not Jack Wilkes, when he had become Chamberlain of London and consequently quite a respectable character, wont to declare that he had never been a Wilkite?

Mem.: Lord George Hamilton's allusion to Mr. "Jerry Mander" reminds me of the old story of William Charles Macready and the tipsy playgoer who, when the great tragedian was acting at Boston, made a disturbance in the pit and had to be turned out. "Don't be alarmed, Mr. Macready," said the manager, apologetically, when the curtain had fallen. "It was no demonstration against you. The man, I guess, was just as tight as a peep, and we've got rid of him." A "peep," in American ornithology, is a little bird that staggers as he hops; and "as tight as a peep" is an American colloquialism for being in a staggering condition of inebriety. "Ha!" quoth the tragedian, loftily, in reply to the managerial explanation, "I am glad that the disorderly person has been expelled; but in my country, Sir, Mr. *Titus A. Peep would have spent the night in the station-house.*"

"You will oblige me," writes "S. J. W." (Durham), "and settle a dispute, if you will inform us, in your 'Echoes,' whether there is such a word as 'agnostic.' I cannot find it in any English dictionary." Well, how many very modern dictionaries has my correspondent consulted? "Agnostic" occurs in "Chambers's Etymological Dictionary of the English Language," "One who holds that we *know nothing* of the supernatural.—Agnosticism (*a*. privative and Gr. *gnostikos*, good at knowing). "Agnostic" is also in Ogilvie and Annandale's "Imperial Dictionary." It is not in Hyde Clarke. It has found its way to the supplement of the 1880 edition of Webster. It is not in Latham's Todd's Johnson.

Mem.: In the first part of the "New English Dictionary" of the Philological Society, edited by Dr. Murray, nearly three-quarters of a column of small type are devoted to the words "agnostic," "agnostically," and "agnosticism." Confound them all! As to the origin of the term "agnostic," there is quoted, in the "New English Dictionary," an extract from a letter signed "R. H. Hutton," dated March 23, 1881. "Agnostic was suggested by Professor Huxley, at a party held previous to the formation of the now defunct Metaphysical Society, at Mr. James Knowles's house on Clapham-common, one evening, in my hearing. He took it" (*sic*. Was "he" Professor Huxley or Mr. James Knowles; and did "he" take the term Agnostic, or the Metaphysical Society, or the house on Clapham-common?) "from St. Paul's mention of the altar to 'the Unknown God.'" O philology, what crimes are committed in thy name! Mr. James Knowles, like Hans Breitmann, "gif a Barty;" and one at least of the guests at the house on Clapham-common seems to have subsequently broken Priscian's head. At the Breitmann banquet "de gombany vought mit de daple-lecks."

In a jauntily-written narrative of a pedestrian tour in France, "Through Auvergne on Foot," by Mr. Edward Barker, just published by Messrs. Griffith and Farran, I note, for a purpose, the following:—

> The most comfortable way of seeing a country, and seeing it well, is that which Sterne adapted when he bargained for the chaise, and, more recently, by the popular novelist who has given us the "Strange Adventures of a Phaeton." But that common-place motor, sometimes called "Shanks's pony" [it should be called "Shanks's mare," or the "marrowbone stage," Mr. Barker] is, comfort apart, preferable, for the same reason that a carriage is better than a train. . . . Enthusiastic cyclists will, of course, say that their method is the best for seeing a country; but unless that country is as flat as a pancake, it has little charm for those who believe that the human machine should have been made to go upon wheels. There are districts in France which certainly offer a splendid field for cyclists by the flatness of the ground, coupled with the perfect condition in which the French highways are kept; but it is needless to say that these districts are the least pleasing to the eye.

The purpose which I had in view in quoting this information for those who like to have "wheels at their toes" was to draw attention to a remarkably curious volume which has recently come into my possession. It is neither old nor crudite—neither rich nor rare; but it is still decidedly a curiosity as interesting (to students of civilisation) as the "Draper's Dictionary" and the "Gentleman's Magazine Library" and a whole shelf-full of books "which are not books," but by which I set great store, and which are of continual help to me.

This, my most recent modern curio, is the "Cycle Directory," published by Cassell and Co., which gives an alphabetical list of all cycling clubs and unions, a list of manufacturers of bicycles and tricycles, of tradesmen dealing in articles in any way appertaining to cycling; also of hotels in the United Kingdom appointed or recommended by cyclists. Matter for philosophic recommendation number one. How long will it be ere "cycle" as a verb and "cyclist" as a noun obtain admission to the newest and most Daniel Lambert-like of our dictionaries?

Matter for philosophic reflection number two. Turn to the list of trades (p. 141) connected with, and supported by, cycling. These trades comprise makers of "alarms," bags, "ball and rolling bearing," bells, oil, oil cans, polish, india-rubber, saddles, springs, uniforms, spokes, and whistles, and patentees of anti-corrosive, oilless carbonate powder, cyclists' tools, rotary movements, plumbago lubricants, bicycle stands, waterproof cuffs, and athletes' embrocation. And to think that all these industries should be the outcome of the humble "rantoon" of sixty years ago.

Will cycling last, I wonder? Lord Bury, as spokesman of a deputation of the Cyclists' Union, told the First Commissioner of Works that there are, at the present moment, three hundred thousand "riders of the iron horse" in the country. Mr. Shaw Lefevre is prepared, I find, to permit cyclists to pass through (without manœuvring or racing in) Victoria and Battersea Parks, and a portion of the Regent's Park. But will cycling last? Rinking promised to be a permanent recreation, and it has declined into a condition of almost hopeless stagnation. Where—in the metropolis at least—are the young ladies who can conquer our admiration and win our hearts by their proficiency in the evolutions of "outside edge"?

During my recent and brief sojourn in Paris I did not go to the play. I had other work to do; and I dislike the Parisian theatres, for the reasons that they are, as a rule, dear, hot, and dirty. I regret, however, that I did not go to the Porte St. Martin to see Sarah Bernhardt as Lady Macbeth. To my mind (passionately admiring the great *tragédienne* as I do), her performance of the guilty wife of the Thane of Cawdor should be simply magnificent; but I was disagreeably disappointed when an English friend in Paris, of long and approved experience as a dramatic critic, told me that Sarah's rendering of Lady Macbeth is very unsatisfactory indeed; and that in the sleep-walking scene in particular she shrieks and moans and whines and jumps about the stage a great deal too much. Still, the impersonation appears to have mightily pleased the audience of the Porte St. Martin; and "Macbeth" is to be followed by a French version of "Romeo and Juliet," Sarah enacting Romeo.

"La Grande Mademoiselle" should be a superb Romeo. I have seen the part wonderfully interpreted by Charlotte Cushman, her sister Susan playing Juliet. There are many points of contact between the genius of Charlotte Cushman and that of Sarah Bernhardt; and what a marvellous Meg Merrilies should Sarah make!

"Enrique," writing from Valencia, asks me whether a drama called "La Pasionaria," by Leopoldo Cano, has been translated into English, and, if it has been so translated, whether it has yet been represented on the London boards. Do you know anything about "La Pasionaria," Mr. Burnand or Mr. Pinero, Mr. Albery or Mr. Sydney Grundy, Mr. Herman Merivale or Mr. Clement Scott? I do not know anything about such a drama. It has made much noise, "Enrique" adds, in Spain. Were I a dramatist I should say nothing concerning "La Pasionaria" in this place, but I should quietly instruct Messrs. Dulau or Mr. David Nutt, or some other foreign bookseller in London, to procure me a copy of the play which has made such a noise in the Peninsula.

There is so little stirring in the way of absolute novelty in the theatrical world at present that that which is ordinarily treated of in the "Playhouses" may be dispatched this week more appropriately in the "Echoes." On Wednesday, June 11, at a matinée at the Globe was produced, for the first time on any stage, a new and original play, called "Happy Go Lucky," by Mr. T. Edgar Pemberton, author of "Gentle Gertrude." The piece, which is full of bright but unequal talent, owed much of its success to the admirable acting of Mr. Lionel Brough as a bibulous coachman named Teams. Mr. Lionel Brough fairly astonished the audience by the artistic force and truth of his performance; and he was able to show that he can be, when occasion demands, as good a master of the pathetic as he is of the humorous. The part of Norah Kilroy, an actress, was also sustained with good power and intensity by that excellent actress Mrs. Edward Saker; and pretty Miss Tilbury was charmingly efficient as Kitty Teams, the bibulous coachman's daughter. Miss Caroline Elton was very good as Mrs. Teams.

I forget on how many bare-backed steeds, at Astley's Amphitheatre, Mr. Andrew Ducrow, as the Courier of St. Petersburg, used simultaneously to ride; but Mr. J. L. Toole seems ambitious to emulate the fame of the immortal courier in question. The funniest of living comedians has substituted, at his dainty theatre in King William-street, "The Pretty Horse-breaker" and "Domestic Economy" for "The Upper Crust," retaining, however, "Paw Clawdian" in his programme. And he plays in all the three pieces every night. A wonderful man Mr. John Lawrence Toole. Mr. David James and "Our Boys" continue nightly to fill the Strand to overflowing. At the Criterion the attractions of "The Great Divorce Case" are enhanced by Planché's sparkling comedietta of "Somebody Else"; at the Vaudeville "Confusion" and Mr. Howard Paul's "The Man Opposite" rule, triumphantly, the roast. The Russian actor, M. Lubimoff, has postponed his matinée at the Vaudeville till July 1, when he will produce his original comedy "A Young Wife." This instant Saturday Mr. Mortimer's comedy of "Gammon" is produced at the Avenue; and all the (playgoing) world are awaiting with eager interest the grand spectacular revival of "Twelfth Night" at the Lyceum.

G. A. S.

M. PASTEUR'S EXPERIMENTS ON HYDROPHOBIA.

M. LOUIS PASTEUR,
PROFESSOR OF THE ECOLE NORMALE.

INOCULATED DOG IN CAGE.

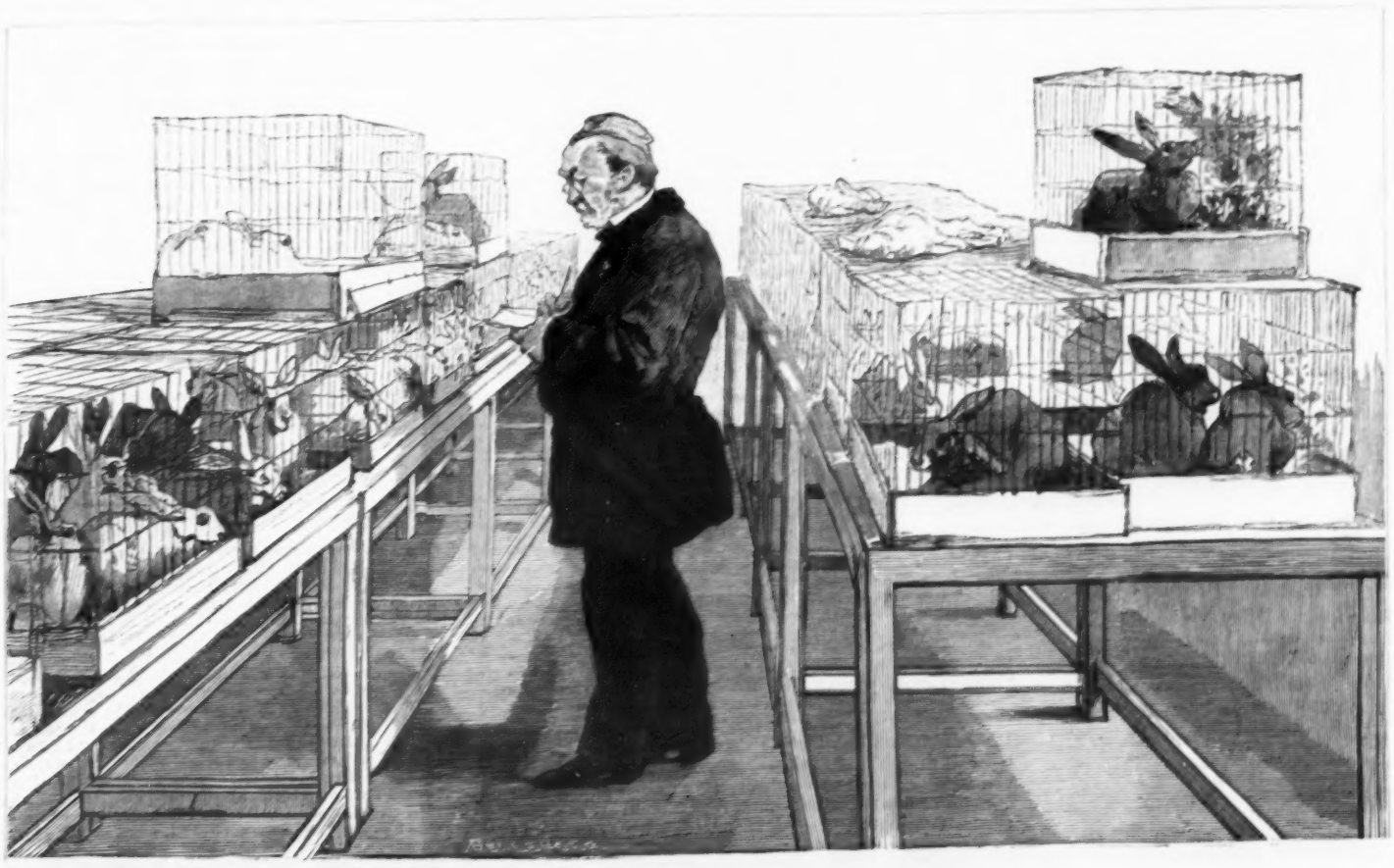
The utility of vivisection, as a method of physiological research, has recently been illustrated by one of the most eminent chemists and physiologists in Europe, M. Louis Pasteur, of Paris, Professor at the Ecole Normale, in his important scientific discoveries concerning hydrophobia. This is a very terrible disease, the operation and laws of which have been hitherto very obscure. The boasted virtue of "humanity," like other kinds of charity, should begin at home with our own species; and if exact knowledge can only be got by inflicting a certain amount of pain upon a few animals, for the purpose of learning how to relieve the human victims of such a dreadful malady, the scientific inquirer who has effectually practised this method, conferring thereby an immense benefit on mankind, it may be hoped, for all generations to come, deserves not reproach but general approbation.

In the month of December, 1880, there was a poor little boy, a child five years of age, brought into the Hospital Trousseau at Paris, who had been bitten in the face by a mad dog three or four weeks before. This child was in a frightful condition, tortured with thirst, while the sight of water, or any liquid, excited him to fury, and he raved horribly, scolding the nurses with all his little might, and continuing till he fell back quite exhausted, writhing in fierce spasms, his throat contracted, and with the signs of approaching suffocation. He died two days afterwards, choked by an accumulation of mucous matter which filled his mouth with foam. Those who saw the agonies of that child at the hospital might well think it worth while to call upon Science, even though a hecatomb of brute animals were to be sacrificed, to find the clue to some remedy, some possible means of prevention or cure, for hydrophobia in human patients. The physician, Dr. Lannelongue, was happily of this opinion. He therefore collected part of the mucous substance from the child's throat, put it into water, and sent it to M. Pasteur, who had expressed a wish to study this difficult subject.

M. Pasteur then took two rabbits, punctured each with a lancet in the skin of the abdomen, and inoculated them with the virus, as is done in vaccination. They died in two days; but he perceived that their symptoms were not those of hydrophobia, and his further examination led to the belief that the inoculating matter contained some other germs of disease, distinct from the canine rabies. He determined, however, to persevere, and made arrangements to procure, from different parts of France, samples of the saliva of dogs affected with this fatal disorder, and reports of cases in which it was communicated to other animals or to human beings. He repeated, about twenty times, his experiment of simple inoculation; but since it is usually one month from the date of receiving the poison before the disease of canine rabies breaks out, this was too slow and uncertain a course of investigation.

M. Pasteur therefore resolved to apply the virus directly to the brain of a dog. The operation, as one of surgery, was performed by the aid of chloroform without any immediate pain. The dog was tied down, and his muzzle was thrust into a cup which contained some chloroform, which rendered him quite unconscious. The skin was raised from his forehead, the skull was trepanned, and a very small syringe, of crystal, with a thin curved point, was inserted in the brain, by which a drop of the virus of canine madness was administered. The dog, when aroused, was able to run about and to eat, as if in ordinary health, but in a very few days became raging mad, and died like other mad dogs. M. Pasteur, by this and succeeding experiments, obtained proof that hydrophobia is a brain disease, extending to the spinal marrow and to the whole nervous system. He inferred that the virus passes from certain nerves into the salivary glands.

The path to useful discovery was now opened; and M. Pasteur undertook further experiments upon a very extensive scale. The basement of the Ecole Normale building, in the Rue d'Ulm, was soon occupied by a large collection of rabbits, dogs, monkeys, and other small beasts, confined in cages, all destined to undergo the operation of trepanning and applying the saliva impregnated with hydrophobia poison to the brain. They suffered no pain till the disease manifested itself. The dogs, of course, then became dangerous to approach; but their cages are so constructed that they can be fed without risk of the attendants being bitten. The rabbits continued for several days to eat their cabbage or lucerne; and these animals, under the influence of hydrophobia, do not bite, like dogs, but their loins and hind legs become paralysed, so that they lie half prostrate, half rising on the forelegs, and crawl feebly along; they die in a few hours after this, but very quietly. The monkeys, on the contrary, feel the effect of the venom with much less severity than the dogs; and the saliva



LABORATORY AT THE ECOLE NORMALE, PARIS.

A NIGHT ALARM AT SOUAKIM.

H.M.S. ALBACORE SEARCHING THE SHORE WITH THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.

LANDING OF THE NAVAL BRIGADE TO REPEL THE ATTACK.

of a monkey which is affected by hydrophobia is found, after being applied to a rabbit, to develop a milder type of the disorder. There may be some analogy between this and the relation of cow-pox to small-pox. It has in fact been proved, by M. Pasteur's experiments, that a dog, when he has been inoculated from a rabbit which had previously received inoculation from a monkey, will not take proper hydrophobia from a mad dog; and further, that a dog which has actually been bitten by a mad dog, if within eight days afterwards the milder disease be communicated from the monkey and rabbit, will escape the canine rabies altogether. This is evidently a discovery of the greatest practical benefit; and there is a strong probability that human beings may, by the like process, as by vaccination in the case of small-pox, be rendered proof against hydrophobia; and even that when persons have been bitten by mad dogs, an early application of this process may avert the dreadful disease.

Such a prospect is most encouraging; and M. Pasteur will have earned the gratitude of mankind if his laborious researches, continued without intermission during the past three or four years, should furnish secure means of checking hydrophobia, and of protecting both domestic animals and men from liability to attack. We present the Portrait of this distinguished physicist, who is a native of Dôle in the Jura, and is about sixty years of age. He is an honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of London, and is personally well known to English men of science. The portrait is from a photograph by Ernest Ladrey, of Paris. The French Ministry of Public Instruction has appointed a Commission of Inquiry, acting jointly with the Academy of Science, to report upon the value of M. Pasteur's recent experiments. Forty dogs, of which twenty will have been fortified by the process which seems analogous to vaccination, are to be bitten by mad dogs, and it will then be seen whether the twenty "vaccinated" dogs are protected against hydrophobia. The result will be awaited with no little interest, and its consequences may be very important.

AN ALARM IN SOUAKIM.

We are indebted to a naval officer of the British squadron in the Red Sea for two Sketches to illustrate the recent operations at Souakim for the defence of that port and town against the remaining hostile force of Osman Digna. These Arabs of the Soudan, to the number of about two thousand men, are still encamped in the hills about Tamai and Handoub, seventeen miles from Souakim; and, having been very short of food, reduced to eating berries, they began to ravage the surrounding country. On the 11th inst., they came down and succeeded in driving off about 900 head of cattle, and, notwithstanding that they were pursued by the Egyptian camel guard, they managed to reach their fastnesses amongst the mountains with their stolen booty. Since then, frequent night attacks have been made on a smaller scale. As none of the British vessels in the harbour were provided with the electric search light, H.M.S. Albacore, four guns, Captain P. K. Smythies, was ordered with all dispatch from Alexandria to reinforce the squadron already at Souakim. She arrived there on the 27th, and at once took up a position commanding the approaches to the town and cattle-ground. On the night of the 28th heavy firing was heard across the plains; and, by means of the search light, the enemy were discovered, and the Albacore immediately opened fire on them, with such good effect that in less than hour the enemy were in full retreat. Since then, affairs have been somewhat quieter. The Marines and Bluejackets of the fleet are sent on shore every night to garrison the town, while Forts Euryalus and Carysfort are permanently occupied by the Marines. Commodore Molyneux is at present in command, and is flying his flag from H.M.S. Sphinx. The other vessels at Souakim were the Albacore, the Briton (Captain Lloyd), and the Tyne (Captain Cochrane); while H.M.S. Carysfort and H.M.S. Dolphin were shortly expected to arrive. Captain Lloyd was in command of the forces landed on shore; Captain Cochrane was superintending the arrangement of night patrol duty and of the guard-boats; while Captain Smythies had charge of the advanced outposts. There are no English troops at Souakim; the only soldiers there are Egyptians, who are considered thoroughly untrustworthy, and likely to bolt at the first sign of an enemy's approach.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

The Duke of Cambridge on Saturday last inspected the 3rd City of London Rifles on the Horse Guards' Parade, in the presence of a very large number of persons. The parade state showed a total attendance of 1003 officers and men, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel R. P. Laurie.

In Hyde Park the 18th Middlesex Rifle Regiment and the 20th Middlesex (Artists) Rifles were officially inspected last Saturday evening—the former on the Guards' Ground by Colonel Fitzroy, Coldstream Guards; and the latter on the Bayswater portion by Colonel Moncrieff, Scots Guards. The 18th mustered 725 of all ranks. The Artists, who were in marching order, and were the only corps who turned out completely equipped in this respect, were under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Edis, and showed a total muster of 692. Colonel Moncrieff, the inspecting officer, intimated that he was well pleased with the inspection, and especially with the neat and serviceable turn-out by the Artists' Corps.

In Regent's Park Colonel Warren, C.B., commanding the 7th and 57th Regimental Districts, made his annual official inspection of the 1st Volunteer Battalion Royal Fusiliers, the corps, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Clark, mustering 857 men and officers.

At the Tower of London the 2nd Middlesex (Customs) Artillery underwent their annual official inspection by Colonel Finch, R.A. Lieutenant-Colonel Lord A. Hill was in command, and the total muster was 550.

The Queen's Westminster Rifles proceeded to Sandown Park last Saturday for their annual camp exercise.

The Field Marshal Commanding in Chief will, to-day (Saturday), make an official inspection in Hyde Park of the London Rifle Brigade, of which he is honorary Colonel.

The Secretary of State for War has approved the attendance of about 5000 Volunteers at Aldershott in August, to drill with the regular troops there. The corps, or detachments of corps, will go under canvas from the 9th to the 16th, and be attached to the infantry brigades of the division.

Her Majesty has presented £100 to the National Artillery Association to be competed for at the Volunteer Artillery meeting at Shoeburyness in August; and among other donors of prizes are the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, the Secretary of State for War, Lord Londesborough, the Earl of Longford, Sir Richard Wallace, the Corporation of London, and the Drapers' Company. The annual meeting of the National Artillery Association was held on the 12th inst. at the Royal United Service institution—Colonel the Marquis of Londonderry presiding. It was stated that about £1000 would be required to send a detachment of twenty-three officers and men to Canada to take part in competitions there. Towards this sum the Common Council of the City of London has contributed £100, and the Marquis of Londonderry £50.

ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

CONCLUDING NOTICE.

We have already remarked that the portraiture is, as usual, one of the strongest features of the exhibition. There are several portraits scattered throughout the rooms which in some respects are equal, or nearly equal, and in some respects superior to most of those by R.A.'s already reviewed. W. R. Symonds, always steadily advancing, has admirable and unexceptionable half-lengths of Mrs. Packard (196) and Mrs. Weller Puley (284). The three-quarter length of the Earl of Breadalbane (354), by George Reid, is as natural and unaffected as could well be. Note how happily the warm yet fresh carnations are set off by the grey frieze and plaid. A head of Mr. W. B. Ridley (910), by G. Walton, is quite a first-rate piece of modelling. Sir G. B. Airy (1521), by John Collier, is highly characteristic; but the artist is less successful in a group of the daughters of Colonel Makins (136); the lines of the composition are scarcely happy. Sir Spencer Wells, the President of the College of Physicians (779), by R. Lehmann, is another capital likeness. A full-length of the late Duke of Buccleuch (851), by Knighton Warren, and a half-length of Mr. H. Magus (812), by O. Scholderer, are honest and strong male portraits. A portrait of a lady (496), by Ellen Montalba, surprises us with a novel and harmonious arrangement of colour. The flesh tints are charming, and they are made to go perfectly with a warm yellow background. The colourist faculty is evidently a gift of the family. In a half-length of Miss M. Tuke (483), by H. S. Tuke, there is a sensibility to the subtler traits of character and expression which promises well. The Lady Pelly (290), by Louisa Starr, is likewise modelled with delicacy. A sense of refinement and grace expressing itself with purity of colour and a well nourished brush is noticeable in a bust of Miss Fortescue (483), by Weedon Grossmith. We cannot say the same of the portrait groups by G. E. Hicks: they strike us as flimsy, as striving at flattery, and ill drawn in parts. Attention is lastly invited to "Alice in Wonderland" (215), by P. W. Adam—a little lady reading the book: a pretty motive for a portrait; to F. Barnard's family group (1564); to H. Schmiechen's bust of Princess Frederica of Hanover (279), exhibited by command of the Queen; and to very remarkable portraits by H. Fantin and A. Aublet. M. Fantin's unnamed half-length of a lady (357) is not only so inimitable in its way, but it is so unlike almost everything in English art, while some of that difference is so valuable in the way of example or protest that the Hanging Committee have failed alike in discernment and courtesy to a distinguished foreign artist in not giving it a place on the line. A love of grey tones, a general reticence in the use of colour (singular in a flower painter), faultless draughtsmanship—even more evident in the hands than the face—and rare truth of light and shade, are the salient features of this work. In his contempt for all the ordinary blandishments of the portrait painter, he has placed his sitter under a nearly vertical light, so that the character of the face, of which ladylike *reticence* of expression, not youth or beauty, constitute the interest, is brought into the strongest relief. The veteran Josef Israels is said to have called on the artist after seeing this work in last year's Salon, in order, as he said, to make the acquaintance of the man who had painted the finest portrait of the century. Even such an authority, however—especially when recalling Israels' passion for all that is dismal and black—need not be accepted as conclusive on M. Fantin's peculiarities of treatment. Flesh tones are not so blackish under any conditions of lighting as here: there is nothing to fully compensate for placing a sitter under a trying and unusual light. Nevertheless, the great artistic truth—ay! and beauty—of this work under its conditions should be a lesson to a great majority of our painters. M. A. Aublet's portrait, entitled "L' Enfant Rose" (316), represents a small, slim, delicate-looking girl in a blush-rose satin frock and white silk stockings, seated in a large antique Italian chair covered with scarlet velvet; relieved against a gilt screen—actual gilding appearing in one place with, of course, relatively false and jarring effect. The artist has aimed at general refinement and beauty of colour; and, excepting the false note of gold, his success is most triumphant. The colour has an artistic "quality" indefinable; the combination of pale flesh-tints, faint rose, and rich yet refined reds and yellows, is exquisite. The full-length of Mrs. H. White (788), wife of the American Minister at Paris, by J. S. Sargent, the American painter, is very dextrous and *chic* in execution. The influence of Carolus-Duran is apparent, and, at the same time, the work seems to recall portraiture of the Lawrence period.

Two or three other works by foreign artists claim notice. A better example of M. Bouguereau might be desired than "La Nuit" (783) from last year's Salon—a well-rounded female figure half-draped in black gauze floating through the air. The painter's irreproachable drawing and modelling and his smoothness of texture are too well known to need further comment. A few words may be added on the "Soir d' Eté" (650), by the Belgian painter, J. Van Beers, to which we alluded in our first notice, and which also figured in a recent Salon, where it had a great success. The subject has been thought enigmatical, and might, perhaps, be left so. The scene is a not-much-frequented part of the Bois de Boulogne, or some park. A lady, dressed in the "height of fashion," in robe of rose, sits on a wooden seat. She has left her carriage and pair, servants and dog, at a distance. She is very handsome, but her attitude is that of *ennui*, and her hard expression has none of the soft languor of summer. The fleecy clouds redden and the green trees deepen in the waning light—and she is alone—alone, save a marble flute-player behind her seat that has lost his head—type, perhaps, of one who has forgotten an assignation here. What is most remarkable in the picture is the marvellous precision and completeness with which the small figures are realised—rivalling photography in peculiar exactitude of form and details. A Brussels critic did indeed attribute to the artist an unjustifiable use of photography in his works, and M. Van Beers brought an action for libel against him, which, however, proved unsuccessful. The jury decided to the effect that the critic gave his opinion in good faith; but it was not proved that the artist *had* made use of photography. The American painter, F. A. Bridgman, sends a scene in a Cairo café (1566), with very clever passages, but comparatively unimportant. By B. Fletcher, another American artist, we believe, there is a picture of a Nestor of a Brittany village holding forth to neighbours as befits a "A Leader of Public Opinion" (445)—very characteristic and well painted. Lastly, French influence is perceptible in F. Brown's "Candidates for Girton College" (168), and W. H. Bartlett's "A bad wind for fish, but a good one for drying" (51); while S. A. Forbes is more French than ever in "Preparing for the Market: Quimperlé" (125)—all is blue blouses, aprons, and gowns, Gallic cocks and hens, and, best of all, bright sunshine. Not only in these, let us add on parting from the oil pictures, but at every few steps have we had to note foreign influence in one way or another. The result is far from altogether reassuring. Imitation means taking a backward position; when the imitation is after foreign models, it means that there is no vitality in the national art. However much the facilities for learning technicalities may be greater abroad than at home, nothing would compensate for the denationalisation of our art. After all, some of the best works in this exhibition are thoroughly English. *Verbum sap.*

The sculpture, like the paintings of the year, is scarcely of average interest. To the peculiar merit and promise of A. Gilbert's "Icarus" and study of a head we have already drawn attention. Among the works not portraiture, the most important is Mr. Birch's large group of Lady Godiva; but we prefer the sculptor in subjects of character and vigorous action. The female figure is thoroughly well modelled, and not less so the horse; and Coventry might well be proud of such a monument. Yet whether it be that the conflict between shrinking modesty and self-sacrifice is not sufficiently apparent, the work does not appeal to us so strongly as did several of the sculptor's previous achievements. Mr. Birch also sends a marble bust of Mr. Barrett as William Denver, in "The Silver King" (1773), which we admired in the plaster last year. Mr. Hamo Thornycroft's "Mower" is a happy blending of the naturalistic and ideal, and might have been conceived by Millet, minus the sentiment he would have contrived to infuse. But the sculptor is not happy in portraiture, and one more versed in that walk of art might have compiled a better bust of Coleridge, the poet, for Westminster Abbey than No. 1788. The motive and title of G. A. Lawson's figure of a *retiarius* flourishing his trident from the arena is the same as those of M. Gérôme's famous picture, "Ave Cæsar, morituri te salutant." It is very spirited, and competently modelled. Another effective and highly creditable work is the "Linus: the Personification of a Dirge of Lamentation," by E. Onslow Ford. The slow, measured stride of the figure as he raises aloft a torch is admirably conceived, understood, and realised. "A Lion," by G. Simonds, is cleverly conventionalised, though described as a "Sketch at the Zoo;" but the realistic snarl is not desirable for a mortuary monument. W. R. Ingram's delicately modelled "Ariel" (1783) deserves a word of commendation. T. Woolner's small bronze in high relief of a female figure entitled "The Water Lily" (1700) is liberally rounded in the forms, but is hardly poised on the right leg with sufficient boldness to fully express the intended action. The relief "Socrates teaching the People in the Agora" (1712) we have already engraved and noticed as one of the works which won a gold medal in the Academy schools this year. It should open a brilliant career. It would be superfluous to praise "L'Age d'Airain" (1667), by the distinguished French sculptor, M. Rodin. It is the property of the French Government.

In portraiture Mr. Brock has a cast of his colossal statue of Sir Richard Temple (1686), erected at Bombay. The likeness must be very striking; indeed, the character seems to be almost too much insisted on. The pose, however, and the workmanship throughout—of the draperies no less than the figure—are first-rate. A marble bust of the Rev. S. H. Booth (1726) surpasses everything of the kind we have seen from Mr. Brock. The absence of all hardness, the unaffectedness, the harmony of the execution in accordance with the genial expression, deserve high praise. A. Bruce Joy is more successful in his smaller works than in the colossal statue of Lord Frederick Cavendish for Barrow-in-Furness. The head, inclined forward, as it is, seems too large; and the general treatment is commonplace. Mr. Boehm's bronze bust of Lord Wolseley (1722) is decidedly the most faithful portrait of the General we have seen; and of the rare spirit and life-like individuality which this sculptor imparts to his terra-cottas there is an excellent specimen in the bust of Herbert Spencer (1774). Mr. Adams Acton is unequal, but his bust of Cardinal Manning is certainly one of the best busts of the year. No little delicacy of perception and modelling has been brought to the realisation of the many subtle traits of the Cardinal's head. The growing skill and *chic* of T. Nelson MacLean are shown in the terra-cotta of the late Mr. Suggate. There are good busts also by Messrs. Fontana, G. Richmond, the painter, W. S. Frith, C. Mason, and others; nor should we omit to mention a vigorous small group, "Kassassin," by Miss A. M. Chaplin, and the wax miniature medallions by Nellia Casella—a revival of a disused art.

The water colours do not imperatively demand notice, works by most of the exhibitors of mark having been exhibited elsewhere. Nor do we understand the necessity for a larger new room for water colours promised by the Academy, now that painters in that medium have their two Royal Societies and several galleries open to all comers. It must suffice to say that drawings by the following artists deserve notice—viz., J. C. Salmon, A. Croft, W. Follen Bishop, H. Coutts, G. Simoni, W. A. Rixon, R. Aspinwall, J. G. Laing, J. Pedder, L. Zoru, and P. Tarrant. The miniatures include exquisite examples by C. J. Turrell, E. Taylor, Alice M. Mott, H. C. Heath, and J. W. Perrin. Among the drawings there are some remarkably spirited studies in chalks of children from life, for a decorative purpose, by W. E. F. Britten. Several of the engravings and etchings we have already noticed on their publication. We therefore limit ourselves to mentioning that among the former are works by Messrs. T. O. Barlow, Lumb Stocks, F. Stackpool, and V. Blanchard; the most consummate work in this class being, however, Jules Jacquet's rendering of Meissonier's "1814." And among the etchings are some of the best efforts of Waltner, L. Flameng, R. W. Macbeth, W. Ball, A. H. Haig, and D. Law. W. L. Wyllie also puts in an appearance as an etcher with a capital version of his Academy picture of last year, bought from the Chantrey Bequest, which is quite as admirable in its way as the picture itself. Du Maurier and H. Furniss exhibit as designers for the wood engraver, and W. Biscombe Gardner sends a wood engraving—an admirable rendering of "The Audience," by Alma Tadema.

The architectural drawings are of still less consequence than other sections of the exhibition, so few public buildings of importance are in hand, or at least here illustrated, and so difficult is it for the average spectator to realise from many of these designs what the actual buildings would be, and so little hope have we to induce our readers to follow remarks on them in detail that we leave their criticism to journals specially devoted to such matters. We would merely observe that the so-called "Queen Anne style" is still in vogue, and is illustrated by Mr. Norman Shaw and his followers. For picturesqueness and convenience of arrangement it has its recommendations, but other and purer styles, if treated with equal freedom or license, might be adapted to meet all reasonable requirements of aspect or service, and certainly much of its debased mongrel details and clumsy bulbous ornamentation might well be dispensed with. In conclusion, we would mention that Mr. James Fergusson sends a restoration of the Temple of Diana at Ephesus (1341), which will be of great interest to the art-archæologist.

T. J. G.

At a meeting of officers belonging to both services held at the United Service Institution last Saturday the Duke of Cambridge presented to Captain Walter, of the Corps of Commissionaires, a testimonial subscribed for in recognition of his efforts for its well-being. The Earl of Longford, Lord Chelmsford, Lord Napier of Magdala, General Sir W. Codrington, Sir H. Havelock-Allan, and General Sir E. Hodge were amongst those who were present.

MUSIC.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

The reappearance of Madame Adelina Patti is always a special event in our musical season, and its recurrence last Saturday evening drew a crowded audience, as on past occasions. The great prima donna repeated her well-known performance as Violetta in "La Traviata" with the charm and power which have for some seasons rendered it one of her many attractive impersonations. The brilliant vocalisation of the opening music, the pathos of the subsequent scenes, and the touching delineation of grief and despair at the close, again constituted a remarkably fine performance. The cast included, as before, Signori Marconi and Cotogni as Alfredo and the elder Germont. On Tuesday Madame Patti appeared in the title-character of Verdi's "Aida," and again displayed those rare qualities of voice and style and that dramatic force which have previously rendered her performance of the part so remarkable. Never, indeed, has the great prima donna appeared to greater advantage than on this occasion, when her vocalisation and her acting were alike admirable, and elicited enthusiastic recognition. As during last season, Mdlle. Tremelli, M. Devoyod, and Signor Nicolini sustained, respectively, the characters of Amneris, Amonasro, and Radamès; other parts having been filled by Signori Novara and Scolara. Signor Bevignani conducted.

On the previous Thursday "Les Huguenots" was repeated, with the cast greatly strengthened by the assignment of the character of Margherita di Valois to Madame Sembrich, whose pure soprano voice and fluent execution gave full effect to the florid music of the part.

This (Saturday) evening Madame Patti is to appear as Rosina in "Il Barbiere di Siviglia."

GERMAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

Wagner's "Lohengrin" was given last week, for the first time during the present series of performances. Great interest attached to the occasion from the cast having included the Elsa of Madame Albani, who sang the music in the original German, for the first time. Her exquisite rendering of the part, both musically and dramatically, has for several seasons been a special feature in the Italian version of the opera as given in the same theatre. On the recent occasion now referred to, Madame Albani fully equalled, if she did not surpass, any of her previous performances of the character. In refined grace and poetical charm nothing could exceed it, while in some instances, notably in the scene of Ortrud's and Telramund's vindictive malignity, and still more in the impassioned passages of Elsa's share in the duet with Lohengrin in the bridal chamber, Madame Albani displayed real tragic power. It was, indeed, a brilliant success throughout. Frau Lager made her first appearance as Ortrud, and proved herself an artist of high merit, both by her declamation and her dramatic rendering of the character, particularly in the important duet with Telramund at the beginning of the second act, and in the following long scene with Elsa. Another first appearance here was that of Herr Stritt, as Lohengrin. He has a resonant tenor voice, well suited to the declamatory music of the part, which he rendered with good effect in several instances, particularly in the address to the King and to Elsa in the first act, in Lohengrin's share of the bridal-chamber duet, in the closing announcement of his name and enforced return to his mission as guardian of the holy grail, and his final farewell to Elsa. Herr Reichmann was an excellent representative of Telramund—energetic but not exaggerated in action, and giving the music of the part with much effect. The characters of the King and the Herald were adequately represented, respectively, by Herren Wiegand and Scheidemantel. The orchestral details were well realised, and the chorus-singing was generally good, exception being made to the occasional preponderance of the male voices.

"Die Meistersinger" was repeated yesterday (Friday) week, with two changes from the previous cast; Herr Reichmann and Herr Oberlander having sustained the characters of Hans Sachs and Walther.

On Saturday afternoon, Wagner's "Tannhäuser" was given, with Herr Stritt in the title-character, in which he sang with somewhat less effect than as Lohengrin. Madame Biro de Marion was a refined but not a powerful Elisabeth; Herr Scheidemantel an excellent Wolfram; Venus was fairly well represented by Fraulein Cramer, Fraulein Kalmann sustained the small part of the Shepherd, and other characters were more or less adequately sustained. The production of Mr. Stanford's "Savonarola"—originally announced for Wednesday next—has been postponed to June 27.

The Tonic Sol-Fa Festival and choral competition took place at the Crystal Palace last Saturday. Eleven choirs competed, and the first, second, and third prizes were awarded to Burslem, Sheffield, and Peckham, respectively; Bayswater, Chesterfield, and Nottingham having been honourably mentioned. The adjudicators were Mr. Henry Leslie, Dr. Stainer, and Mr. E. H. Turpin, and the prizes were given away by Mrs. Leslie. A concert was afterwards successfully performed by the combined choirs, conducted by Mr. C. Venables.

The ninth and last of this season's Richter concerts took place at St. James's Hall on Monday evening, when Beethoven's choral symphony was finely rendered (especially the orchestral portions), and formed a grand climax to the selection. Another excellent performance was that of Wagner's overture to "Tannhäuser." The concert began with a prelude to "Romeo and Juliet" by the late Joachim Raff—a piece of no very special interest—and included Brahms's "Schicksalslied" (for chorus and orchestra), and an air from Mozart's "Figaro," gracefully sung by Madame Schuch-Proska. Three evening concerts are to be given in October and November.

Mr. W. G. Cusins, the eminent conductor and pianist, gave his annual morning concert at St. James's Hall on Monday afternoon. The programme included his own pianoforte trio in C minor, which was effectively rendered by himself, Herr Straus, and Mr. E. Howell. Mr. Cusins's skilful pianoforte playing was also displayed in other instances, including solo pieces of his own and two by Liszt. A varied selection of vocal music was contributed by eminent artists; a long programme having included two scenes from "The School for Scandal," excellently recited by Mrs. Kendal and Mr. S. Brandram.

Two concerts, morning and evening, were given by Signor Bottesini—the "Paganini of the double bass"—at Prince's Hall, Piccadilly, on Tuesday. On each occasion the rare skill of this extraordinary artist was displayed in pieces of his own composition, comprising solos and a grand concertante duet for violin and contra-basso, the former instrument sustained by Signor Papini. The programmes comprised other details too numerous for specific notice.

Mr. W. Ganz—well known as a skilful pianist and conductor—gave a matinée at his residence in Harley-street on Tuesday, when his own performances were features in an interesting and varied programme. Mr. Ganz played with much effect several solo pieces, including some of his own composition, and also sustained the principal part in Schumann's pianoforte quartet, in association with Signor Papini, Herr Grossheim, and M. Libotton. Several eminent vocalists contributed to the programme.

Of Mr. Kuhe's annual concert, which took place at St. James's Hall during the week, and was, as usual, one of the specialties of the season, we must speak next week.

Herr Adolf Friedman gave a morning concert on Wednesday at Prince's Hall; Miss Speer and Miss Marie Speer, two young Irish ladies who have adopted music as a profession, gave their first concert at the Steinway Hall on Thursday morning; and the fifth public concert of the St. Cecilia Society (conductor, Mr. Malcolm Lawson) took place in the evening at St. James's Hall.

Haydn's "Creation" will be performed by the Kensington Orchestral and Choral Society on Tuesday evening, the 24th inst., at the Kensington Townhall, Mr. William Buels being the conductor; and Madame Isabelle de Letowska announces a pianoforte recital to be given at Messrs. Collard's Concert-Rooms, Grosvenor-street, on Friday afternoon, the 27th inst.

Mr. Geo. Watts's evening concert at the Royal Albert Hall on Wednesday next promises to be of exceptional interest, Madame Albani, Mr. Sims Reeves, and many other eminent artists being announced to appear.

Madame Sainton Dolby's pupils give a concert on Thursday afternoon, July 3, at Steinway Hall.

THE CHURCH.

The Archbishop of York held a levée of his clergy at the office of his secretary, at Lendal, near York, on Wednesday.

The Bishop of Manchester addressed the students of the Yorkshire College in the Philosophical Hall, Leeds, on Friday, and also distributed the prizes.

On Monday the Kent Association of Change Ringers held their fourth annual festival at Canterbury, the Dean of Canterbury presiding. A satisfactory report was presented.

Bishop Gregg has received the notification of a gift of £1000 towards a special object in a branch of the Reformed Church of England in the diocese of St. Albans.

A handsome stained-glass window has been placed in the chancel of Northfleet church, Kent. The artists are Messrs. Warrington and Co., of Fitzroy-square.

Yesterday week the Bishop of Oxford gave his triennial charge to the clergy of the Newbury Deanery, at St. Nicholas Church. A dinner afterwards took place at the Townhall.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has presented the Rev. C. W. Bewsher, Vicar of Nackington, near Canterbury, to the living of Postling, vacant by the resignation of the Rev. H. T. Maitland.

Archdeacon Farrar will preach on Sunday morning (tomorrow) at St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, on behalf of the Poor Clergy Relief Corporation. The Lord Mayor and Sheriffs will be present.

Collections were made in the churches and chapels of the metropolis on Sunday in aid of the London hospitals and other charitable institutions. The Judges attended St. Paul's Cathedral in state in the afternoon.

The Rev. Henry Twells has been elected a Proctor of Convocation for the diocese of Peterborough, in the room of the Rev. Assheton Pownall, promoted to the archdeaconry of Leicester.

The first of a course of weekly addresses on "Church Work among the London Poor" was given yesterday week in Westminster Abbey by the Bishop of Bedford, at the close of the afternoon service.

On Thursday week the Countess of Wharncliffe opened a bazaar in the grounds of Warwick House, Paddington, on behalf of the Chancel Fund of St. Saviour's, Paddington. The bazaar was continued on Friday and Saturday.

The Rev. James D. Kelly, of Wadham College, Oxford, Vicar of Christ Church, Ashton-under-Lyne, has been appointed Canon Residentiary in Manchester Cathedral, in the place of the Ven. Archdeacon Anson, who has resigned.

Lord Heytesbury presided last week at an influential meeting of Wiltshire residents, when it was decided to take steps to raise £500 for a memorial window in Salisbury Cathedral in testimony of the regard felt for the late Duke of Albany.

The Rev. J. B. Draper, Vicar of All Saints', Brightside, near Sheffield, has accepted the Archbishop of York's offer of the living of Strensall, near York, rendered vacant by the resignation of the Rev. John Hodgkinson.

Lord Wilton has presented the Rev. W. T. Jones, M.A., Vicar of St. Nicholas, Guildford, to the Rectory of Prestwich, near Manchester, vacant by the resignation of the Rev. Canon Birch, Chaplain to the Queen. The living is of the value of £1500 per annum, with rectory house.

The Bishop of Oxford has presented the Rev. T. G. Barlow Poole, Vicar of Echinswell with Sydmonton, to the living of St. John's, Newbury, rendered vacant by the preferment of the Rev. Henry Thornhill Morgan to the living of St. John the Baptist, Crowthorn, near Wellington College.

The Archbishop of Canterbury presided on Tuesday, in St. James's Hall, at the 183rd annual meeting of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. The gross income of the year had been £109,572. The Earl of Carnarvon, the Bishop of Ohio, and others spoke.

Lord Salisbury presided at the annual meeting of the National Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church, held on Tuesday in the Society's rooms. The Marquis pointed out the necessity for the religious teaching of the young.

The stewards of the recent Festival of the Sons of the Clergy were entertained on Wednesday last by the Archbishop of Canterbury at Lambeth Palace, with some other guests. The short service in the beautiful chapel of the palace customary upon these occasions preceded the dinner. The company numbered sixty-five in all.

The National Society's annual conference of diocesan secretaries and inspectors, principals of training colleges, and others interested in Church schools, was held in the Meeting-room of the National Society, Sanctuary, Westminster, on Wednesday, the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol presiding. The society's annual meeting was held on Tuesday, the Marquis of Salisbury, vice-president, in the chair.

An "Olde Englyshe Fayre" was opened on Tuesday by the Lord Mayor in state, in the hall of the Cannon-street Hotel, in aid of the restoration fund of St. Botolph Church, Aldgate. The hall was tastefully decorated in the mediæval style, the walls depicting a series of houses representing Aldgate in the olden time. In the three days during which the fair remained open several entertainments were given.

A testimonial from the people of Hull has been presented to the Rev. Canon Scott, on the occasion of his leaving Hull, for the Vicarage of St. John the Evangelist, Leeds. The presentation took place in the Townhall, under the presidency of the Mayor of Hull, and before a large audience. The testimonial consisted of a large and beautiful bracket clock, made specially for the purpose at a cost of eighty guineas, a cheque for 500 guineas, and an album bound in olive-green morocco, containing the names of the subscribers.

THE SILENT MEMBER.

There was a welcome reappearance in the House of Lords on Monday. The Prince of Wales, looking all the better for his Continental trip, took his seat for the first time since the lamentable event which threw the Royal family into mourning.

The indisposition Earl Granville is subject to prevented him from being in his place in the Upper House on Monday. Though Lord Carlingford was not in a position to satisfy the Marquis of Salisbury's natural curiosity with regard to the Conference negotiations, the Earl of Kimberley, who arrived a little later, was enabled to announce that the Government had come to terms with France, that the "arrangement will now be immediately communicated to the other Powers," and the result would probably be laid before Parliament on Monday next. The Prime Minister conveyed the same information to the House of Commons. Lord Kimberley in the one House and Mr. Gladstone in the other had respectively to remind Lord Salisbury and Mr. Bourke that it would not be in accordance with custom to make known to Parliament the terms of the agreement with France before they had been communicated to the Powers. But it was gathered from the remarks made by the noble Marquis and Mr. Bourke that both were under the impression that an earlier opportunity should be given them to veto the arrangements, whatever they may be, with France. Perhaps, the Opposition would be satisfied were the Government of the country to be again intrusted to them.

The very important Manchester Ship Canal Bill (against which Liverpool is almost up in arms) was on Monday read a third time and passed by the House of Lords.

The Duke of Argyll's energetic, incisive oratory, heard too seldom in the Upper House, heightened the effect of his unqualified condemnation of the Irish Land Act, on Monday. Rather more than a day after the fair came this remorseless and profitless denunciation of an Act, introduced by the Government and passed by Parliament to meet a great crisis in Ireland. As the Lord Chancellor pithily remarked while the bill was under discussion, it was not only a measure to reduce the rent of agricultural holdings, but also to secure the rents to the landlords. Lord Carlingford, in the course of his well-reasoned reply to the Duke's philippic, aptly said, the Act "is now the unalterable law of the land," and has established in Ireland a tenure "that will endure, and which nothing can now essentially alter"—except, as the Earl of Derby intimated, in the way of removing any defects of administration which time and experience may bring to light. Beyond obtaining the returns he moved for, the noble Duke gained nothing by his censorious speech.

The Yeomanry have, at considerable sacrifice of leisure, acquitted themselves so creditably as an important branch of the auxiliary forces, that general satisfaction will be felt at the explanation which has cleared an efficient regiment from the stigma cast upon it. Lord Dorchester's spirited denial of the truth of the charge of rioting brought against the yeomanry at Lichfield induced the Earl of Morley to read to the Lords on Tuesday a telegram from the inspecting officer to the effect that there was "absolutely no foundation" for the report. Some disturbance was caused by an attack made by "roughs" on one yeoman; but, on the whole, the "men have behaved remarkably well."

The Hyde Park Corner improvements have occasioned yet another difference of opinion in the House of Lords. On Tuesday the Earl of Powis secured the rejection, by a majority of 24, of the Ministerial bill which proposed to confer on the local authorities the privilege of maintaining the new street at the corner of Hyde Park. Seeing that the wholesale closing of public-houses in some parts of the country on Sunday has only led to a great increase of drinking clubs, a majority of their Lordships had at the same sitting some reason for rejecting the Sunday Closing Bill for Cornwall.

The County Franchise Bill will in all probability leave the House of Commons for "another place" in a few days. On the 12th inst., Mr. Woodall's chivalrous motion to enfranchise female householders, opposed by the Government as inopportune, was negatived by the goodly majority of 136—271 against 135 votes. Mr. Albert Grey, on the 13th inst., only introduced to withdraw his clause postponing the operation of the Act till Jan. 1, 1887; and Jan. 1 next was on Tuesday fixed upon as the date, on the motion of Mr. Henry Fowler, approved by Mr. Gladstone, albeit Mr. Jesse Collings advanced cogent reasons in favour of the Act coming into force directly the bill should receive the Royal sanction. Lord Randolph Churchill's suggestion that, with the view of gathering facts for the promised Redistribution Bill, a Boundary Commission should sit during the Recess, was half sanctioned by the Prime Minister. The Conservatives thereafter found cause for much rejoicing in the defeat, by a majority of 23, of Mr. Stevenson's rational resolution (supported by the Premier), framed to check the talking-out system that prevails on Wednesdays.

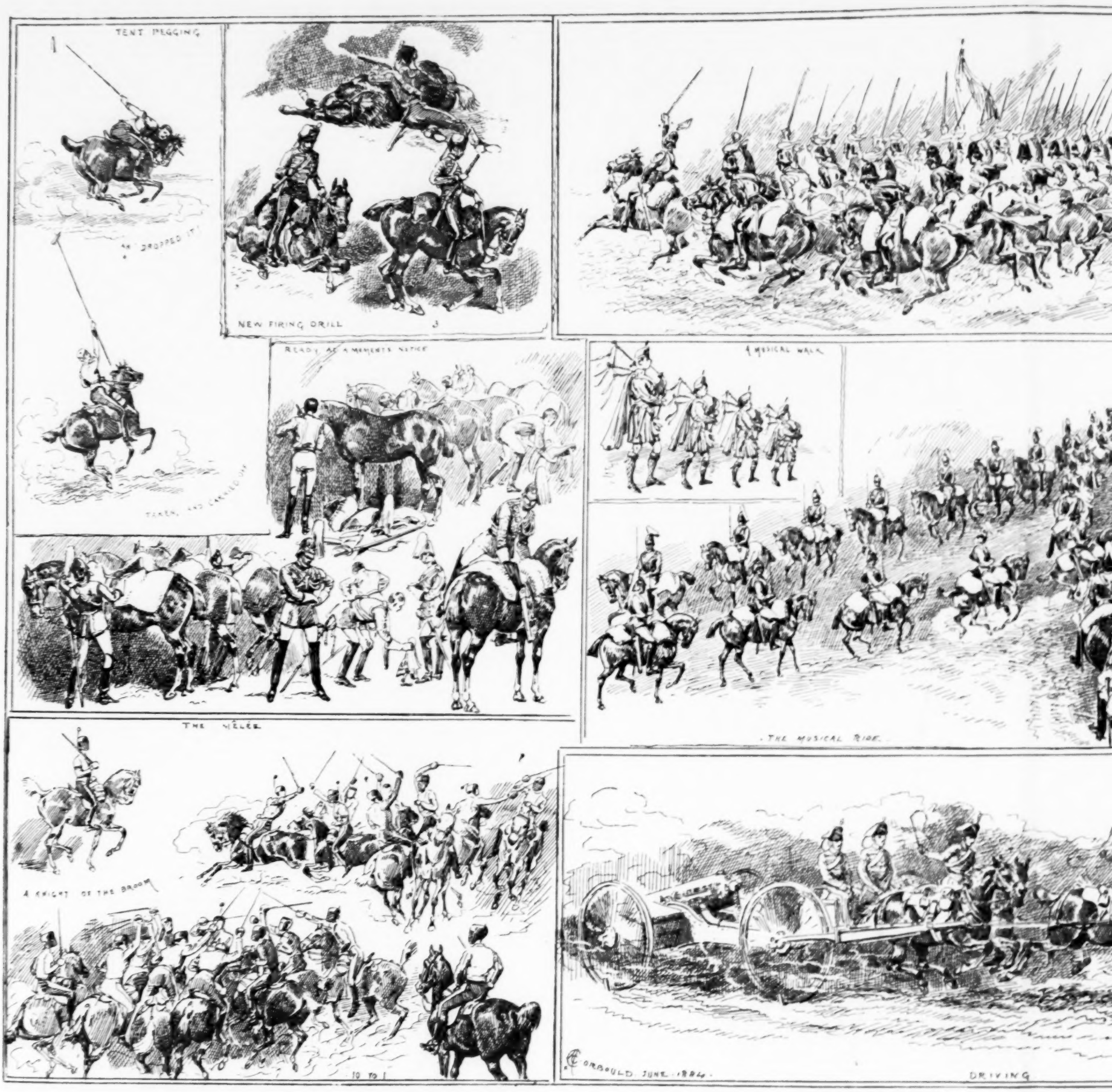
Curiously enough, while Lord Randolph Churchill has of late relaxed the severity of his cross-examination of the Government at question-time, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett has multiplied his hostile interrogations to such an extent that Mr. Gladstone was on Tuesday stimulated to rebuke the hon. member for Eye somewhat sternly. If Ministerial replies were commendably brief, instead of being, as a rule, tediously and unnecessarily prolix, this growing habit of plying the Government with awkward inquiries would be discouraged.

Mr. Mundella, presumably, does not feel "where the shoe pinches" as a metropolitan rate-payer. Or, he would hardly have plumed himself last Monday upon being the first Minister to propose so large a vote as £3,616,167 for Elementary Education in England and Wales—an increase on last year of £77,580. Indubitably desirable as it is that the children of the poor should be well instrusted in the "three R's," it is equally desirable some portion of the income of the benighted middle classes should be left, however small, to cover the cost of the education of their own offspring.

On Wednesday, Mr. E. A. Leatham's Church Patronage Bill was read the second time, and referred to a Select Committee, Mr. Grey's amendment being rejected by 141 against 83 votes; and the Yorkshire Sunday Closing Bill was talked out.

The Lancashire and Cheshire branch of the British Medical Association, numbering 1100 members, held its annual gathering at Chester on Wednesday. Dr. Waters, Chester president of the Association, adverted to the loss the Association had sustained by the death of Dr. Borchardt, who had played so important a part in the medical life of Manchester.

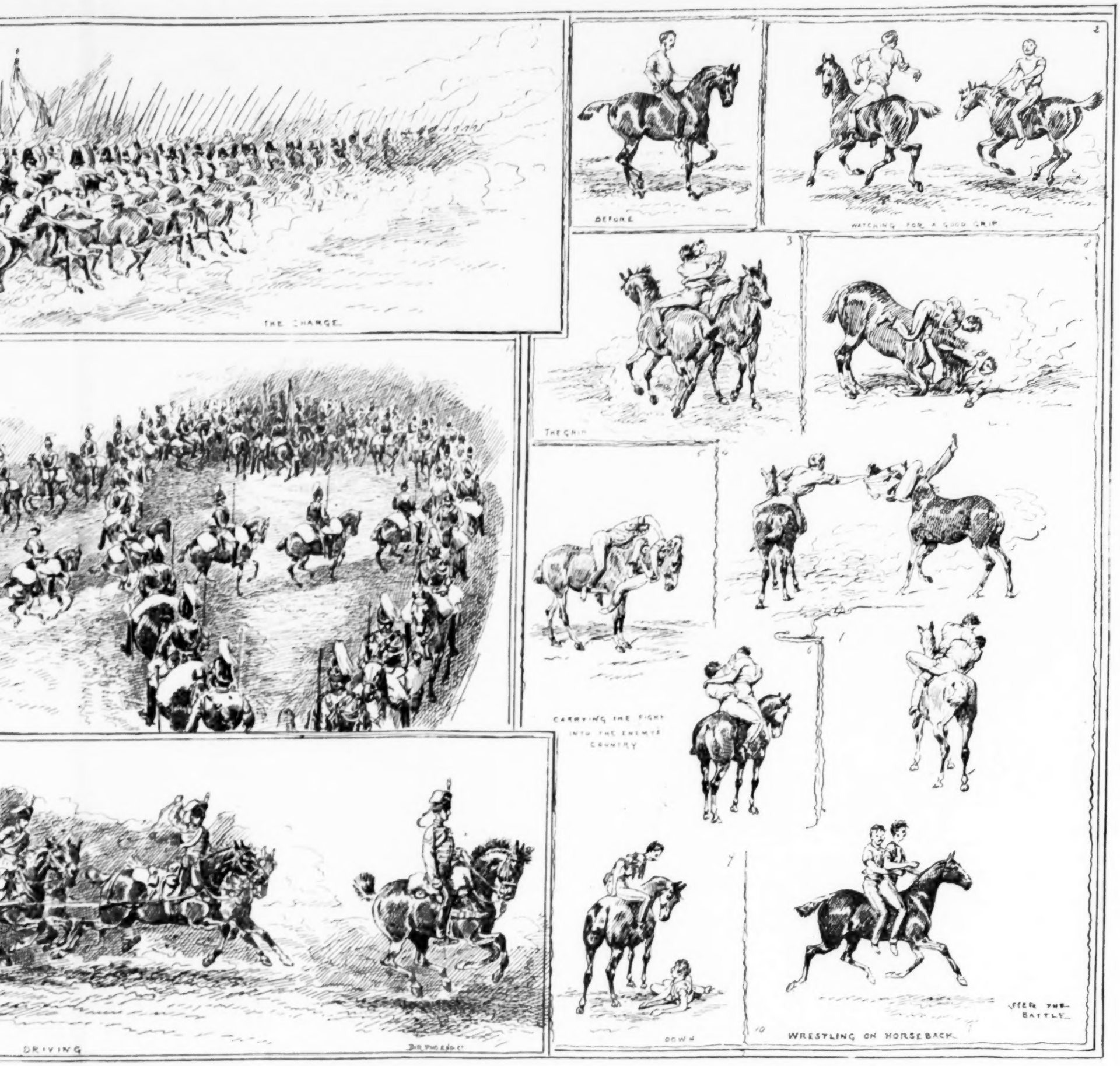
The Earl of Airlie held a series of sports at Cortachy Castle, Forfarshire, last Saturday, at which the Countess of Airlie, Lady Griselda and Lady Maud Ogilvie, and a number of the landed proprietors of the neighbourhood were present. The sports were witnessed by over 2000 spectators, and were carried out most successfully, the chief competitors being the tenantry on the estate.



SKETCHES AT THE MILITARY TOURNAMENT

THE MILITARY TOURNAMENT.

The fifth annual grand assault of arms and military tournament, held at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, under Royal patronage, was opened by his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, Commander-in-Chief, on Monday last at one o'clock. This yearly entertainment was originally started, through the exertions of Mr. J. H. Raffety, in aid of the Royal Cambridge Asylum for Widows, at Kingston, and the charity has been benefited by the exhibition to the extent of about £4000. In 1883 the available surplus was given to the Cambridge Fund for old and disabled soldiers—an admirable charity, administered under the personal supervision of his Royal Highness; and the profits on the present occasion will be devoted to the same purpose. The main features of the tournament are similar to those of previous occasions, which have been frequently described. The proceedings on Monday included a special item, the musical parade and drill of the boys from the Royal Naval School at Greenwich and the Duke York's School. With admirable precision the youngsters went through their work, and elicited frequent cheers. Having completed their task, they filed up into the galleries set apart for them, and remained interested spectators of succeeding events. The numerous singlestick combats were keenly relished by the crowd around the arena. The sword and bayonet contests, and those between sword and shield on the one side and bayonet on the other, attracted much interest. The jumping teams thoroughly aroused popular enthusiasm, but those by Horse Artillery drivers, each with a led horse, were rather provocative of amusement, several of the led animals breaking away from their drivers and negotiating the fences on their own account, invariably selecting a weak spot where the furze had been displaced. The team from the 3rd Hussars showed some excellent work, not only over hurdles, but in carbine practice, the horses lying down—with more or less persuasion—while the men fired, resting their short rifles on the animals' bodies. The Royal Artillery, the Royal Horse Artillery, and the Honourable Artillery Company teams also gave evidence how their guns could be driven through narrow defiles without moving peg or post, the regulars being successful in every attempt save one. The Balaclava *mêlée* was as usual productive of much merriment and excitement, and the various exhibitions of skill at tent-pegging, tilting at rings, and wrestling on horseback, gave more interest to the programme. It is difficult to say anything in the way of description that has not been said before, of the various evolutions or the skill and dexterity with which they are performed. Stalwart and martial looked the men of the 1st Life Guards, and gallant was the bearing of both man and horse, seemingly actuated but by one will, as swiftly and deftly each change and turn was executed without a hitch or fault. Their "musical ride" was a perfect equestrian dance, keeping time with the motions of every limb, as in a circus performance. When, finally, the troops formed into line and charged at headlong speed from end to end of the arena, such a ringing cheer as is but rarely heard rose from the crowded hall. With slight variation, the exhibition was repeated in the evening, and there were two performances daily throughout the week. On Wednesday, the performers were all officers of the Army.



TARY TOURNAMENT IN THE AGRICULTURAL HALL.

THE FOUNTAINE COLLECTION.

The sale of this celebrated collection of majolica, Henri II. ware, Palissy ware, Nevers ware, Limoges enamels, carved ivory, and other ornamental art-work, originally formed by Sir Andrew Fountaine, a courtier of the time of King William III., Vice-Chamberlain to the Princess of Wales in 1725, and successor to Sir Isaac Newton, as Master of the Mint in 1727, commenced on Monday in King-street, St. James's. Mr. Christie, the auctioneer, stated that there was no doubt as to the authenticity of the various *morceaux* of the collection. No attempt had been made to repair any of the pieces, although some required such attention. They were offered just as they were received from the great china closet at Narford, in Norfolk. The sale derived additional interest from the proceedings of the "Syndicate" which had been formed at the instance of Mr. J. C. Robinson, Sir W. Gregory, a trustee of the National Gallery, Mr. Fisher, the well-known collector of engravings, and other gentlemen, for the purpose of purchasing certain masterpieces, and then offering them, at the price paid, to the Government. A considerable sum had in this way been got together, exceeding £12,000, and upon the wall of the ante-room at Christie's was a list of names in which many persons had subscribed from £100 to £1000 each, as a guarantee fund. We learn that several of the finest objects have thus been purchased by the "Syndicate," the most important being the two candlesticks by Bernard Palissy, for which the price paid was £1510, and a cistern by the same artist for 1050 guineas, while £1911 was given for the companion cistern. The enthusiastic applause of these purchases showed a hearty public approval of the spirited efforts of the "Syndicate." The first day's sale included a selection of majolica, then Palissy ware, and after this enamels, and this order was followed in the two next days. The Briot ewer, from a design by Benvenuto Cellini, represented in one of our Illustrations, was sold for £1365; the flambeau of Henri Deux ware, also shown in our drawings, went for the enormous price of £3675, to M. Clement, of Paris; a grand Urbino oval dish, with a design of the "Children of Israel Gathering Manna," for £1333, to the Syndicate; the mortier à cire, Henri Deux, for £1575; and the biberon, for £1006, to foreign purchasers; a pair of candlesticks, elaborately modelled with open-worked stems, for £1510; the Urbino dish, with Raphael's "Feast of the Gods," for £252; a candlestick in the form of a Corinthian column, for £640; and a ewer of Limoges enamel, for £1312. The total proceeds of the first day's sale were £24,340, and about the same on Tuesday.

At the sale of the Tamworth estate of Sir Robert Peel, held at Tamworth last week, the total sum realised was nearly £31,000. Thirty-two of the hundred lots offered were not sold. The public-houses and hotels realised prices considerably beyond expectation.

Prince Lucien Bonaparte has presented to the Library Committee of the London Corporation a set of his versions of St. Matthew's Gospel, translated into upwards of twenty-three French dialects. This work, which is of the highest philological importance, has been produced by the Prince at his sole charge, with the assistance of specialists.

THE COURT.

On Sunday the Queen, Princess Beatrice, and Princess Leiningen were present at Divine service at the parish church of Crathie. The Dowager Duchess of Roxburghe and Colonel the Hon. C. H. Lindsay, C.B., were in attendance. The Rev. Dr. M'Gregor, of St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, officiated. The Princesses of Edinburgh lunched with her Majesty. Dr. M'Gregor and the Rev. A. Campbell had the honour of dining with the Queen and the Royal family. Captain J. S. Napier and Lieutenants J. G. M. Gordon and T. Irvine, of the detachment of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders stationed at Ballater, had the honour of dining at the Castle, and were presented to the Queen on Monday evening. The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice and the Princesses of Edinburgh, drove from Balmoral Castle on Tuesday afternoon, in an open carriage drawn by four greys, with postilions and outriders, along the usual route to Castleton of Braemar, and thence, by Mar Lodge, around the Lion's Face. Her Majesty has walked and driven out daily, accompanied by Princess Beatrice or Princess Leiningen, sometimes by both ladies. Arrangements have been made for the departure of her Majesty from Balmoral for Windsor on Tuesday next.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by their three daughters, arrived at Marlborough House last Saturday afternoon from Wiesbaden, after an absence of several weeks on the Continent. The Prince and Princess and the Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud were present at Divine service on Sunday, for the first time since the death of the Duke of Albany. The Prince attended the House of Lords on Monday, and remained during the Duke of Argyll's speech upon the working of the Irish Land Act. The Marquis of Lorne was also present. The Prince visited the International Health Exhibition at South Kensington in the morning. Prince and Princess Christian visited the Prince and Princess, and remained to luncheon. Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar and the Prince of Leiningen likewise visited their Royal Highnesses. Prince Albert Victor, attended by the Rev. J. N. Dalton, arrived at Marlborough House from Trinity College, Cambridge. On Tuesday the Prince received the international jurors of the International Health Exhibition in the Albert Hall, for the purpose of inaugurating their constitution and work. His Royal Highness also presided at a conference held in the exhibition, when Sir James Paget read a paper on "National Health" in relation to work. The Duke of Buckingham and Sir Lyon Playfair also spoke on the subject. Lord Reay then introduced to his Royal Highness the English and foreign commissioners. In response to a vote of thanks the Prince remarked that it was satisfactory to see from the numbers that the exhibition was a success, but he hoped its greatest success, would be of a scientific and instructive character.

The ladies patronesses of the Royal Caledonian Ball have been informed that her Majesty has signified her consent that the ball on Monday next shall be under her patronage. The ball will also be under the patronage of the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, and Prince and Princess Christian.

FASHIONABLE MARRIAGES.

The marriage of Count Godard Bentinck, of Amerongen Castle, in the Netherlands, youngest son of the late Lieut.-General Charles Bentinck, Count of the Holy Roman Empire, and of the Countess Bentinck (née Countess of Waldeck and Pyrmont), to the Countess Louise de Bylandt, daughter of the late Count Auguste de Bylandt, was solemnised at the Hague on Thursday, the 12th inst., in the presence of a large assemblage of relatives and friends. The bridal party arrived at the British Legation shortly after half-past eleven, when the marriage ceremony was performed by the Rev. Edward Brine, the bride being given away by her cousin, Count Charles de Bylandt. After the registration of the marriage the wedding party proceeded to the French Protestant church, the bride being attended by eight bridesmaids—Countess Marie de Bylandt, cousin of the bride; Countesses Mechtild, Renira, and Mary Bentinck, nieces of the bridegroom; Baroness Mary du Tour, and Misses Constance and Helen Hope Loudoun. Here the ceremony was performed by M. le Pasteur Bourlier.

The marriage of Mr. Audley Miles, second son of Colonel Miles, M.P., of Burton Hill, Malmesbury, and Eveline Frances, eldest daughter of Sir John Cradock Hartopp, Bart., took place on Tuesday at St. Peter's Church, Eaton-square. Mr. T. C. Edwards-Moss acted as best man to the bridegroom; and there were eight bridesmaids—namely, Miss Hartopp, sister of the bride; the three Misses Miles, sisters of the bridegroom; Lady Ottoline Bentinck, Miss A. Biddulph, and Miss Whitmore.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH EXHIBITION.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the President of this Exhibition, having been unable to attend its ceremonial opening six weeks ago, visited it for the first time on Monday, and on Tuesday presided at the meeting to set the juries to work for the adjudication of prizes to the meritorious exhibitors. Upon the same occasion, Sir James Paget, M.D., read an essay on the "Relation between National Health and Work," proving that the value of twenty million average weeks' work of various kinds is lost to the nation by allowing people to fall into ill-health. The collection of printed essays, reports, and handbooks, prepared and published under the direction of the Executive Council, and hereafter to be issued by the Society of Arts, is growing rapidly into a popular encyclopedia of sanitary science and practice. Among these shilling handbooks, some of which are illustrated, we notice the following as specially instructive to ordinary readers: "Our Duty, or Moral Responsibility of the Individual in regard to Health," by Dr. G. V. Poore; "Diet in relation to Health and Work," by A. W. Blyth; "The Principles of Cooking," by Septimus Berdmore; "Physiology of Digestion and the Digestive Organs," by Arthur Gamgee, F.R.S.; "Alcoholic Drinks," by Dr. Thudichum; "Water and Unfermented Beverages," by Professor Attfield; "Food and Cookery for Infants and Invalids," by Miss Catherine Wood; "Dress in relation to Health and Climate," by Mr. E. W. Godwin; "Healthy and Unhealthy Houses in Town and Country," by Mr. W. Eassie, C.E., and Mr. Rogers Field; "Manual of Heating, Lighting, and Ventilation," by Captain Douglas Galton, C.B.; "Healthy Nurseries and Bedrooms, including the Lying-in-Room," by Mrs. Gladstone; "Healthy Furniture and Decoration," by Mr. R. W. Edis; "Health in Workshops," by Mr. Lakeman, Factory Inspector; "Healthy Schools," by Mr. C. Paget; and "Health in the Village," by Dr. H. W. Acland, C.B., F.R.S. The study of these useful treatises is earnestly recommended to men and women of all classes throughout England; for we are perfectly sure that, if the knowledge which they impart were generally received and acted upon in domestic life, the nation would become "healthy, wealthy, and wise."

Mr. Justice Mathew and Mr. Justice Day have decided that a School Board has no power to enforce by punishment the preparation of home lessons.

OBITUARY.

SIR EDWARD WARDE, K.C.B.

General Sir Edward Charles Warde, K.C.B., Royal Horse Artillery, died very suddenly, at Brighton, on the 11th inst. He was born Nov. 13, 1810, the eldest son of the late General Sir Henry Warde, G.C.B., fourth son of Mr. John Warde, of Squerryes, Kent, Deputy Governor of the South Sea scheme. He joined the Royal Artillery in 1828, and commanded the siege train before Sebastopol in 1855; had the Crimean and Turkish medals, the Legion of Honour, and the Medjidié; was promoted for distinguished service in the field, and in 1865, being then in command of the Woolwich district, received the thanks of Government for the energetic measures which he took to restore the river wall, destroyed by an explosion of gunpowder at Erith. He was given the decoration of K.C.B. in 1869. Sir Edward married, Aug. 24, 1843, Jane, eldest daughter of the Rev. Canon Charles Lane, M.A., Rector of Wrotham, Kent, a descendant of the Colonel Lane, of Bentley, Staffordshire, who saved King Charles II. after the Battle of Worcester, and leaves issue.

MAJOR-GENERAL MACKINNON.

Major-General Daniel Henry Mackinnon, whose death is announced, was born Sept. 18, 1813, the third son of Mr. Daniel Mackinnon, of Bingfield, Berks, by Rachel Yeamans, his wife, daughter and heiress of Captain Eliot, of Sanger, in the county of Kircudbright, and was nephew of the late Mr. William Alexander Mackinnon, M.P. for Rye. After a distinguished course at Trinity College, Dublin, he entered the 16th Lancers, and took part, with that gallant regiment, in Afghanistan, under Lord Keane, was present at the capture of Ghuznee, and served also through the Sutlej campaign—at Aliwal and Sobraon. He was author of "Military Service in the Far East," "British Military Power in India," &c. He married, Oct. 12, 1847, Caroline, youngest daughter of the Hon. Baron Dimsdale, and leaves issue. Colonel Daniel Mackinnon, who wrote a history of the Coldstream Guards, was first cousin of Major-General Mackinnon.

THE HON. AMELIA MATILDA MURRAY.

The Hon. Amelia (Emily) Matilda Murray, author of "Recollections of the Early Years of the Present Century" and of "Letters from the Southern States of America," died at Glenberrow, Herefordshire, on the 7th inst., aged eighty-nine. She was born April 30, 1795, fourth daughter of Lord George Murray, Bishop of St. Davids (second son of the third Duke of Athole), by Anne Charlotte, his wife, daughter of Lieutenant-General Francis Grant. Her sister, Caroline Leonora, married the third Earl of Ilchester. Miss Emily Murray was appointed Maid of Honour to the Queen a few days after her Majesty's accession, and continued as such until March 16, 1853, when she resigned, becoming afterwards Extra Woman of the Bedchamber.

MR. BROMLEY-DAVENPORT, M.P.

Colonel William Bromley-Davenport, of Capesthorne, county Chester, Baginton Hall, county Warwick, and Wootton Hall, county Stafford, J.P. and D.L., M.P. for North Warwickshire, Colonel Staffordshire Yeomanry Cavalry, and A.D.C. to the Queen, died suddenly on the 15th inst. He was born Aug. 28, 1821, son and heir of the Rev. Walter Davenport Bromley (third son of Mr. Davies Davenport, of Capesthorne, M.P. for Cheshire), and succeeded his cousin Mr. A. H. Davenport of Capesthorne in 1867, when he was authorised by Royal License to take the surname of Davenport in addition to and after that of Bromley. He was educated at Harrow, and at Christ Church, Oxford, and entered Parliament in 1864. He married, 1858, Augusta Elizabeth, daughter of Walter Frederick Campbell, of Islay, M.P., and sister of the Countess Granville; and leaves issue. The family estates are very considerable in the counties of Chester, Warwick, Stafford, and Bucks.

We have also to record the deaths of—

Colonel Wickham Freeman, the last survivor of the old 18th Hussars, on the 9th inst., at Bath, in his ninetieth year.

Mr. Thomas Richard Greg, of Ballymenoch, county Down, J.P., and High Sheriff, 1840, on the 8th inst., at his town residence, 8, Eaton-square, aged seventy-eight.

Mr. James Figgins, aged seventy-four. He was elected Alderman of Farringdon Without in 1873, being at that time member of Parliament for Shrewsbury. In 1882 Mr. Figgins resigned his aldermanic gown on the ground of ill-health.

Mr. Edward Thomas Rogers (Rogers Bey), formerly Consul at Damascus, Consul-General in Syria, and Consul and Post Office at Cairo. After his retirement from the Consular service in 1875, he was for some time Agent to the Egyptian Government, and subsequently Director of the Ministry of Public Instruction in Cairo.

Charles Cornwallis Ross, Lieutenant King's Royal Rifles, on the 7th inst., at Ramleh, of typhoid fever, contracted at Souakim; he was eldest son of Mr. Alexander Henry Ross, M.P. for Maidstone, and grandson of the late Charles Ross, M.P., and the Lady Mary Cornwallis, daughter of the last Marquis Cornwallis.

The Hon. Mrs. Eyre, wife of Mr. Vincent A. Eyre, of Lindley Hall, Leicestershire, at Brighton, on the 14th inst. The deceased, the Hon. Margaret Frances Agnes, who was the eldest daughter of Edward, thirteenth Viscount Gormanston, and sister of the present peer, was born in 1838, and married Mr. Eyre, April 27, 1882.

Mr. Gaskell, a Unitarian minister at Manchester—whose late wife was the author of "Mary Barton," "The Life of Charlotte Brontë," and many other works—on the 11th inst., in his eightieth year. In his youth he numbered amongst his intimate friends Thomas Carlyle, Dean Milman, the poet Coleridge, and many other distinguished men of letters. The Gaskell Scholarship at Owens College, open to the students of the Unitarian Home Missionary Board, was founded by him out of moneys presented to him on the occasion of the jubilee of his connection with Cross-street chapel.

The Scotch Earl of Seafield has been created Baron Strathspey of the United Kingdom.

The Cornish Club held their annual dinner at Limmer's Hotel on Monday evening.

In the Queen's Bench at Dublin on Wednesday, Mr. O'Brien, M.P., editor of *United Ireland*, was fined £500 for contempt of Court in Mr. Bolton's case by publishing a libellous article pending the trial.

With reference to the will of Mr. Henry James Byron, reported in our columns, we are informed he was twice married, and that the children who take an interest under his will are only those by his second wife, who survives him.

A new service periodical is to be published next month under the title of the "Illustrated Naval and Military Magazine." Its scope will be international, and its engravings will be a prominent feature of the new magazine.

Sir Thomas McIlwraith, ex-Premier of Queensland, and his brother, Mr. John McIlwraith, ex-Mayor of Melbourne, were on Monday presented with the freedom of Ayr, their native town.

PARISIAN SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Tuesday, June 17.

There are still several hundreds of thousands of people dwelling on both banks of the Seine, so that when one hears that Paris is empty the expression must be taken relatively; it means simply that there is no difficulty in finding cabs, that the tables in the restaurants are not retained two or three days in advance, that the flower-shops content themselves with a supply of half-a-dozen bouquets, which are amply sufficient for the diminished demand, that the leisure portion of the population is going or has gone already to sea and mountain, and that after the final rejoicings of the Grand Prix Paris has settled down to its usual calm and monotonous summer existence. Even in the stormy Chamber of Deputies the debates have become peaceful. The business of the week has been the questions of the recruiting bill, of equality of service, and of the military stature, which General Campenon desires to have fixed at "1 mètre 55 centimètres," a little above 5 ft. 1 in. The rest of the Session promises to be monotonous, however important from the point of view of political business. Even the proposed revision of the Constitution seems to have lost interest both for the public, the Chamber, and the Ministry. Doubtless the Ferry bill will be voted, and the result will simply be a solemn and legal declaration that the Republic shall not be destroyed by Parliamentary means.

A recently-published volume by M. Victor Tissot, "La Police Secrète Prussienne," has revived the matter of German espionage at Paris, and the newspapers are commenting with some bitterness on all the questions which were brought to the front by the recent Kraszewski trial and Bismarck's letter. At the same time, the boulevards are infested by sellers of so-called provocation journals, such as *L'Anti-Prussien*, *L'Anti-Berlin*, &c. All this, combined with the conjectures as to possible German projects in the eventuality of the death of the Prince of Orange, contributes to produce a certain disturbance in the political atmosphere of Paris.

The ex-Marshal Bazaine is announced to be preparing for the press his memoirs, in which he will have curious details to relate concerning the capitulation of Metz, and the attitude of the Empress, who was then Regent; about the Mexican expedition; about M. Thiers, &c. In short, the memoirs are to throw light on many shady points of modern French history.—A bill has been presented in the Chamber proposing a tax on nobiliary titles—50,000f. for the title of prince, 45,000f. for that of duke, and 10,000f. for the simple *particule*, or *de*.—According to competent authorities the phylloxera if not destroyed is, at any rate, under control, and the crisis in the wine industry may be considered to be at an end.—A proposition emanating from a Radical deputy to establish a national fête in honour of Jeanne d'Arc is now meeting with approbation even on the part of the Republican Press.

T. C.

The Spanish Budget, presented to the Cortes last Saturday, shows an estimated expenditure of £35,212,000. Taxation is expected to yield £33,870,000 and the Budget is to be balanced by sales of disestablished lands and stock in the Treasury.—The Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne at the opening of the Cortes has been adopted in the Senate by 167 votes to 65.—Seven of the "Black Hand" conspirators were executed at Xeres on the 14th inst., the death-sentence of seven others having been commuted to penal servitude for life.

On Monday the Dutch Government brought forward in the Second Chamber a bill authorising a credit of 1,500,000 florins, for the purpose of increasing the naval forces in Acheen waters. The bill was agreed to by 45 to 10 votes.

Owing to the result of the recent elections in Belgium, which have given a majority to the Clerical party, the Belgian Ministry resigned; and a new Cabinet, under M. Jules Malou, has been formed. A Royal decree dissolves the Senate, and fixes the new elections for the 8th prox. The Chamber will meet on July 22.

Yesterday week the Emperor William left Berlin on his annual summer tour. He will stay at Ems, to take the water, for two or three weeks.

The Crown Princess of Sweden safely gave birth to a son on Tuesday night.

The Grand Duke Sergius of Russia was married on Sunday to Princess Elizabeth of Hesse, the state entry into St. Petersburg having taken place on Saturday. The marriage was solemnised in the chapel of the Winter Palace, according to the rites of the Lutheran and Orthodox Churches. A state banquet was given in the afternoon, and in the evening a state ball was given in the palace.

The Governor of Massowah has telegraphed that Admiral Hewett had fully succeeded in his mission, and that King John of Abyssinia had undertaken to relieve Kassala. The Mahdi has written to the Governor of Dongola, appointing him Ameer of the province, and the Governor has sent the letter to Nubar Pasha. The fall of Berber is confirmed by the Governor of Dongola, who asks for leave to retreat northwards with his troops, and has received permission to do so. The Mahdi is, according to the same authority, at Teb-el-Gadir, a mountain stronghold to the south of El Obeid. A telegram from the *Standard's* correspondent at Cairo states that orders have been sent to the Mudir of Dongola directing him to endeavour to assure himself of the truth as to the fall of Berber, a disaster which some few people there are still disinclined to believe. Colonel Scott Moncrieff, in a note on the financial condition of Egypt, says that after studying the statistics which at Nubar Pasha's request were furnished him by the Legislative Council, he is convinced that the land assessment is higher than at present can be borne, at least in Upper Egypt. To restore the balance we must either (1) increase the productiveness of the soil; (2) diminish the cost of production; or (3) increase the selling price of produce. Failing these, we must lower the taxation.

Mr. Tilden declines to be put in nomination as the Democratic candidate for the Presidency of the United States, owing to physical inability to perform the duties of the office in accordance with his ideas thereof. A conference of prominent Independent Republicans was held at New York on Tuesday, with the view of arranging a system of formal opposition to the nomination of Mr. Blaine for the Presidency.

The South Australian House of Assembly has passed a vote of want of confidence in the Ministry. The Cabinet has resigned in consequence; and the Hon. John Colton, member of the House of Assembly, has been charged by the Governor with the formation of a new Ministry, composed as follows:—Hon. John Colton, Premier and Chief Secretary; Hon. W. B. Rounsevell, Treasurer; Hon. C. C. Kingston, Attorney-General; Hon. J. Coles, Commissioner of Lands; Hon. T. Playford, Commissioner of Public Works; Hon. R. C. Baker, Minister of Education.

The New Zealand House of Representatives has passed a vote of want of confidence in the Ministry. It is expected that Parliament will be dissolved.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

Though things improved a little on the Thursday and Friday as compared with what they had been on the first two days, the recent Ascot Meeting will be long remembered as the worst that backers have experienced for many years past; and, under those circumstances, it says a good deal for the stability of the turf that the settling was, on the whole, very satisfactory. A field of five was far larger than might have been expected for the Gold Cup, as it was generally thought that the unbeaten St. Simon would frighten away nearly all the other competitors. However, Tristan entered the lists once more, and the Duke of Beaufort also took his chance with Faugh-a-Ballagh, whilst the Duke of Hamilton ran old Friday. As the result proved, they all might just as well have remained in their stables, for St. Simon won without the semblance of an effort, and we really think he has more claim to be called "the horse of the century" than a good many of his predecessors that have enjoyed the same title. The value of his victory was greatly enhanced by the success of Tristan in the Hardwicke Stakes—a race that he also won in 1882 and 1883. Waterford and Harvester, in receipt of 28 lb. and 18 lb. respectively, finished behind Mr. Lefevre's grand old horse, whose temper, bad as it is prior to the start, never seems to interfere with him in the race itself. We doubt if any really remarkable two-year-old has appeared in public this season, and perhaps Melton, the winner of the New Stakes, is as good as any of them. Behind him was a well-known public performer like Cock Robin, and the "dark" Langwell, who had been so highly tried that he started at 6 to 4 in a field of nine. He is by Master Kildare from Violet Melrose, and his young sire will be remembered as having won the City and Suburban, under a crushing weight, not many years ago. That slashing mare, Geheimniss, carried off the All Aged Stakes and Queen's Stand Plate with scarcely an effort, still one cannot help feeling a regret that such a grand animal should be kept almost entirely to sprint races. Corrie Roy, who was evidently feeling the effect of her gallop over the hard ground at Manchester, just managed to land the Alexandra Plate, but only after a desperate struggle with Faugh-a-Ballagh, who was conceding her 10 lb. We hear that "Mr. Manton" has reconsidered his determination to sell all his horses in the July week, but Corrie Roy will probably be turned out of training, and indulged with a well-earned rest. Nearly every horse of note put in an appearance at Ascot, and considerable changes have taken place in the betting on the St. Leger, for which Scot-Free is now favourite, and Sandiway, The Lambkin, and Cambusmore are much fancied in the second division. On the other hand, Superba is reported to have gone all to pieces since her victory at Sandown Park, there is a grave doubt if Busybody will stand training again, and Harvester's show in the Hardwicke Stakes was by no means encouraging.

Considering that "Black Ascot" must have left many intending buyers very short of money, the sale of the Beenham House yearlings on Saturday last was a very successful one, as the thirty-five lots disposed of averaged a little over 261 gs. The top price was made by a black colt by Cremorne from Strategy, who fell to Tom Brown's bid of 1600 gs.; and the only other one that ran into four figures was a bay filly by Uncas—Side View, a half-sister to Glance, for whom Mr. Baird gave 1100 gs. Robert the Devil presented his first batch of yearlings for public approval, and they met with a very favourable reception, colts from Ursula and Gratinska realising 850 gs. each; the five making the capital average of 448 gs. Another noteworthy youngster was a filly by Petrarch from Ambuscade (670 gs.); and altogether Mr. Waring has every reason to be satisfied with the result of his annual sale.

Now that another spell of fine weather has set in, long scores are once more the order of the day in the cricket field. In the match between the Australians and Notts, however, the bowling was far too good on each side to admit of anyone doing much with it, and Blackham (not out, 46), whose fine batting at a very critical point of the game just about won the match for the Colonials by three wickets, was the highest score on either side. Barnes (33 and 37) was also in rare form with the bat, and Giffen, who took seven wickets for 69 runs in the first innings of the county, was decidedly the most successful bowler on either side. We fear that the Cambridge University eleven, which is not very strong this season, will lose its reputation of invariably defeating the Australians, as, though the match is not finished at the time of writing, it seems bound to fall to our visitors. J. E. K. Studd (59) and H. W. Bainbridge (61) made a grand beginning for the University, but they were not well backed up, and the innings closed for 204. On the other side, W. L. Murdoch (132) gave us about the first sample of his true form that he has shown during the present trip, and, with most of the team running into double figures, they put together the fine total of 378, to which G. E. Palmer contributed 68, not out. Owing in a great measure to W. G. Grace being disabled after he had made a fine score of 94 in the first innings, Middlesex has beaten Gloucestershire by 122 runs; T. C. O'Brien (119) was the principal scorer for the winners. The western county also fared badly at the hands of Surrey, succumbing by an innings and 33 runs. No one did much for Gloucestershire except E. M. Grace (67 and 52), W. R. Gilbert (69), and Painter (49); whilst, for the winners, E. J. Diver (65) and Read (99) were the principal contributors to a fine score of 388. Thanks again to T. C. O'Brien (91, not out, and 57), Oxford University has beaten Lancashire by five wickets; and a regular bowlers' match between Notts and Yorkshire has ended in favour of the former, which bids fair to be champion county, by three wickets. For the winners, Shaw got ten wickets for 61 runs, and Wright seven for 60; whilst Peate was the most successful trundler on the other side, taking seven for only 41.

On Saturday last the American Lacrosse team met with their first reverse since they began their tour in this country. They played a combined team of Great Britain and Ireland at Belfast, and were defeated by four goals to two after a capital game.

The Scottish gathering, in aid of the Scottish charities in London, is to to held at Stamford-bridge Grounds to-day (Saturday). A goodly list of competitions is announced.

This (Saturday) afternoon the Amateur Athletic Champion Meeting will take place at the Lower Aston Grounds, Birmingham.

Earl Percy and the Earl and Countess of Onslow on Monday afternoon opened an art loan collection at Guildford. The exhibition is contained in the six large rooms of the County and Borough Hall, one of which is occupied by a dozen contributions from her Majesty, and a case of gold and silver plate—a selection from the presents which were made to the Duke and Duchess of Albany on their wedding.

There were 2805 births and 1450 deaths registered in London last week. Allowing for increase of population, the births exceeded by 229, and the deaths by 25, the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last ten years. The deaths included 27 from smallpox, 73 from measles, 33 from scarlet fever, 24 from diphtheria, 61 from whooping-cough, 17 from enteric fever, and 21 from dysentery.

SUBURBAN SPORT.

It is an undeniably good day for fishing. Every now and then warm splashes of rain fall from great cumuli that travel very slowly and lazily over the calm grey sky above them, and low grumblings of thunder occasionally are to be heard. Still the silence is extreme, and nothing disturbs the placid quiet that appears to have fallen on the earth, or on that especial corner thereof that contains the source of a good deal of suburban sport. It is a spot familiar to those who are given to contemplate advertisements hung up in railway stations; yet it is nearly three miles from a station, and is thus preserved from a great many of those who would otherwise haunt it; and the ubiquitous bicycle rider seems to have no turn for a rod and line, else surely there would not be standing room for us beneath the vast spreading chestnut-tree that is one of the features in the landscape. When we draw up at the little inn, and cast an eye at the stream, our countenances brighten considerably; not only is there only one man fishing, but his landing-net contains an admirable specimen of the trout, and, as we look, we see another rise at his fly, albeit he does not succeed in hooking the wily creature.

We are impatient to be off, and scarcely wait for directions as to the length, width, and breadth of the fishing attached to the inn, before we are arranging rod and line, and searching ardently through our fly-book for a "blue upright," which seems to us the thing with which to attract the fish this especial day.

The man who takes what he is pleased to call our traps smiles rather sardonically at us, and seems to suggest that we have no cause to hurry, advising us first of all to look over the bridge cautiously and learn something of the manners and customs of the creatures of which we are in search. One of the party refuses entirely to listen: what, has not the pleasant-faced youth in grey just had another rise?—is it likely he is going to waste his time when he, who has fished successfully in Scotland and Ireland, to say nothing of Norway, sees a boy getting rises every moment, that in his own case would certainly result in catches? Certainly not. He only regrets that he has no landing net; but this is his own fault, as he sneered at us, when we reminded him of its absence, and asked us sardonically if we expected to want it in the place we were taking him to?

We thought not, so did not press the question; but now we were rather relieved when he departed, leaving us, who care far more for "mooning around," as the Yankees say, than any amount of action, to look over into the water and see the fish. It is an extremely picturesque and interesting sight: just in front of us is a square white mill, with a clock pointing perpetually to three o'clock; on our right hand a broad, beautiful hill stretches away in the delicious lines and curves that indicate the chalk country; a deep country lane between great hedges, twined all over with hops and clematis and woodbine, leads away to London, that seems a hundred miles away; while on the left we can see the old church, hop plantations, cherry-trees looking bare and battered in the process of having their fruit stripped off them, and hear the reaping-machine as it whirrs through a field of meadow-hay that is being considerably spoiled by the weather.

Just under our feet the rapid stream whirls along from the mill; and moving cautiously, so that we shall not throw our shadows over the stream—though really the precautions taken with country fish do not seem requisite here—we lean over, and, under the guidance of the man belonging to the place, catch sight of countless fish of all sizes and ages; from quite big creatures of two and three pounds to small spotted things about the length of your hand.

It was certainly more entertaining than fishing to stand and see them rise to the bread we now began to throw in; we would cast it just in front of one of the big fish, and see the current bear it to him, when he would dart, the water would swirl, a brown shade would render the water opaque for a moment as his action stirred the mud at the bottom of the stream; and then it would clear again, the bread would be gone, and the fish would be there, quite stationary, stemming the tide with his tail, and with his nose apparently fixed against a stone to steady himself.

It is most curious to see how each fish appropriates some one especial spot to himself; and off this he warns everyone of his brethren who approaches it; first all, by simply looking at him; then, if that avails nothing, by motioning to him to go; finally, should his hint still remain unappropriated, he chases him vigorously, and returns to continue the same plan of action—as it seems to us—as long as he lives, for he appears to have no other object in life than to remain stationary, guarding his place, and seeing that no one comes between the wind and his nobility. It would be quite easy to find amusement here for hours. A gaunt grey cat comes out from a neighbouring cottage, and cautiously seats herself on a stone, evidently used for folk to stand on as they dip up water for use, regardless that a sewer discharges itself in our sight just under the bridge; but the cat does not want water, and sets herself to fish as regularly as we know our friend is doing out there in the meadows, where the willows grow luxuriantly, regardless that the grub of the goat-sucker moth is gradually eating out the stems of more than one of them, and that their foliage is eaten into holes by all sorts of creatures, that raise scarlet or black monuments on the thin grey leaves to mark their passage.

After watching the cat unsuccessfully make for the big trout they call Jack, that has lived for years under one arch of the bridge, past which he utterly refuses to allow any other fish to go, and whence he will only emerge very occasionally to obtain a bit of bread, thinking that no hook can be concealed therein, as it is surely in every sort of fly with which anglers have in vain tried to cajole him, we think of our friend once more, and set out to look for him, a little apprehensive of how we shall find him, on hearing from the man that he did not think a "blue upright" was quite likely to suit the water, and that he hardly knew what would; it required such a peculiar fly to catch "they fish," and one that he had not seen in any book that day. But we refused to be discouraged; thought gleefully of the youth in grey and the fish we had seen; and, passing under some marvellous lustrous lime-trees out in full blossom, in which bees were swarming in pursuit of honey, with a murmuring hum that could be heard half a field off, we came out into the meadows and looked for our friend.

But he was not in sight; so we sat on a bridge and waited, saying to ourselves that we would not fish, for really we did not care to do aught save listen to the water rushing, and look at the long green streams of water-weed that lay along the bottom of the river, looking like mermaids' tresses. Every now and then a trout would rise, a bird's shadow would flit across the stream, or a swallow would dip rapidly in and skim away swiftly ere we could realise its presence; the willows creaked and groaned dismally as the wind rose, and rain began to fall.

Presently we awoke to the consciousness that the bank seemed alive with fishermen, all of whom looked madly angry at each other, and seemed, one and all, to resent each other's presence. They were all elaborately attired for fishing; each had a macintosh, and each a landing-net slung across his back. The air seemed literally alive with the sharp swish of lines being thrown, and the rapid whirr of the gut as the reels were wound or unwound. Presently we saw our friend coming towards us, and we looked at our watch: five good hours had we been amusing ourselves; well, he had been in advance of all, save the youth in grey; doubtless he would return jubilant, and put to shame the gorgeously attired gentlemen before us.

But a glance at his ruffled countenance, and at his bag, empty of aught save his fly-book, told us a different tale, and we hardly needed his words before we knew that he had traversed the whole place vigorously and had caught nothing; remarking sadly, that he could have borne his disappointment better had there been no fish, but that the place was literally swarming with a peculiar breed that looked like the orthodox properly constituted trout, but that were either phantom fish born of the old gentleman, or else were demons, who simply rose to excite people to come there, and had no earthly intention of taking any fly that had ever been made. We thought of the bread, and our friend at the inn, and, silently pressing his hand, assured him he had our deepest sympathy, and then suggested dinner.

Half way through a most excellent repast—at which, needless to remark, no trout put in an appearance—he smiled. "I have one consolation," he said, cheerfully; "at all events, I was not fool enough to take a landing-net; and after all we have had a jolly day." And certainly if one can enjoy oneself without killing something, there is a great amount of pleasure to be obtained from suburban sport. J. E. P.

CITY ECHOES.

WEDNESDAY.

Towards the close of last week the many rumours which had for weeks been disturbing business minds came to a head in such an outrageous manner that the tendency to talk without sufficient justification has received a wholesome check. A firm, whose foresight has been such as to prevent their being caught with even average commitments during the recent crisis, was telegraphed about without even the disguise of cipher; and what was so plainly said, was at once as plainly refuted. It is opportune, too, that we have now also the favourable news that an important section of railway rates in America has been advanced. This has given a new tone to a market most miserably depressed. The principal Canadian and United States issues have recovered appreciably; and it seems just possible that, as the present prices are very low, the indication that a turn for the better has at last taken place may stimulate purchases from those who have been waiting for some evidence that the worst had been reached. In that case, a substantial though gradual rebound may be looked for.

Canada is issuing 3½ per cent stock, partly with the object of providing for 6 per cent bonds due on July 1. No British Colony has before placed anything below 4, and it is probably quite unequalled that a borrower should have before the world such evidence of growth of credit as is implied in the existence side by side of 6 per cent and 3½ per cent issues. At one time Canadian bonds were always cheaper than those of the other principal colonies, on the ground that in the event of a war between Great Britain and the United States Canada would be in great danger; but since the settlement of the Alabama Claims less and less has been heard of this contingency, and now Canada is at the top of the scale of colonial credit.

As July 1 nears, our investments in American Railway bonds are being put to some test. The Atlantic and Great Western (now known as the New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio) announces that the first mortgage coupon due on July 1 will be paid at the rate of 10s. per coupon of £3 10s. This time last year £1 5s. was paid. Then these bonds were quoted 50, and they are now 35. This company is leased to the Erie—quite an instance of the blind leading the blind.

The Rio de Janeiro Gas Company have come into serious conflict with the Imperial Government of Brazil. The company has long been engaged in carrying out a concession for lighting the city of Rio with gas. The work was highly profitable. Not only have 10 per cent dividends been paid, but £150,000 has been added to paid-up capital out of profits, and about £200,000 more has been accumulated as reserve insurance and depreciation funds. It is not unnatural, therefore, that as the term of the concession drew towards the close competitive tenders should be sought. This company offered to continue on reduced conditions, but they were outbid, and now they seek of the new concessionaire the value of their plant, &c. Litigation seems to be feared. More moderation years ago would probably have prevented this result, for the present charge upon the consumers of gas in Rio appears to be equal to about 20 per cent on the capital laid out. T. S.

Sir Saul Samuel, K.C.M.G., Agent-General for New South Wales, has been informed by telegram of the arrival in Sydney of the ship Bann, which sailed from Glasgow with emigrants in March last.

The seventy-fourth annual meeting of the Swedenborg Society was held at 36, Bloomsbury-street, on Tuesday, the Rev. J. Presland presiding. The report of the committee states that 2387 volumes of the works of Swedenborg were sold, and 1287 presented during the year.

The additional amount of money, about £30,000, required for the completion of the Technical College at South Kensington, for which the Prince of Wales made an appeal through the newspapers a short time ago, is now guaranteed, and all necessary arrangements for opening the college will probably be carried out in time for an inaugural winter session.

Cambridge was among the first to adopt the Free Library Act, and on Monday the managers opened a fine new central reading-room, erected adjacent to the Guildhall, at a cost of nearly £3000. The event was celebrated by a conversazione in the evening, at which the Mayor and many of the principal inhabitants were present.

The presidency of the Social Science Association for the ensuing year has been accepted by Mr. G. J. Shaw-Lefevre, M.P., First Commissioner of Works. The preparations for the annual congress, which is to take place at Birmingham, from Sept. 17 to Sept. 24, are being vigorously pushed forward by the different local committees; and a largely-attended and successful meeting is anticipated. It is sixteen years since the association met, for the second time, in Birmingham, and twenty-seven years since it held, in 1857, its first meeting, which also took place in that town.

Earl and Countess Spencer arrived at Belfast from Dublin on Tuesday afternoon, and were warmly welcomed by a large crowd, which had assembled at the railway station to greet them. Everything so far passed off quietly on Wednesday. The Lord Lieutenant received an address of welcome from the Corporation in the Townhall, and in reply stated that he believed the efforts of those who would retard the progress of Ireland had been frustrated. In the same hall his Excellency then unveiled a portrait of her Majesty, by Sir Thomas Jones, President of the Royal Hibernian Academy. Afterwards he drove to the Royal Avenue, and laid the foundation stone of a free public library.

1. Group of Henri II. ware, sixteenth century; flambeau, with arms of France and Montmorency Laval, 12½ in. high; mortier à eire, 5¾ in. high; biberon, or vase, with lid and handles, cypher A. M., 9 in. high.
2. Group of Palissy ware; circular dish, with snakes, lizards, and fish, 21 in. diameter; ewer ditto; candlestick in shape of Corinthian column on square pedestal.
3. The Briot Ewer, of Palissy ware, from design by Benvenuto Cellini. Sold for £1365.
4. Large oval dish in coloured enamels, from design by Raphael, representing Feast of the Gods, with portraits of Henri II., Catherine de Medicis, and Diana of Poitiers, the work of L. Limousin, 19½ in. by 16½ in.
5. Pilgrims' bottle, of Urbino ware, with medallions of Roman Emperor and Empress, 16½ in. high. There were several bottles of this kind in the collection.
6. Ivory carving, Nymph and four Cupids, in high relief, carved by Fiammingo.
7. Large oval cistern of Palissy ware, children's faces and festoons, and fruit in coloured relief, 56½ in. long by 13½ in. high. Sold for £1911.
8. Bourgonet helmet, with beaver, visor, and plume-holder, about 1530.
9. A mentonnière, with arms of Spain and eagle's claw.
10. Italian ivory horn, carved in arabesque, with silver-gilt mountings.
11. Powder-horn, carved ivory, Nymph, Satyr, and Cupid.

THE FOUNTAINE COLLECTION ON SALE AT MESSRS. CHRISTIE AND MANSON'S.

A FARMER'S WIFE OF HAARLEM.

RAMBLING SKETCHES.

DUTCH FOLK.—No. III.

Our rambling artist in Holland provides another page of Sketches, representing, as in the two pages we have already given, some of the characteristic figures of the rural population in that homely country, where old-fashioned costumes and habits are to be seen in many small towns and villages out of the way of ordinary tourists. With reference to that of the worthy farmer's wife in the neighbourhood of Haarlem, the good Dutch dame may speak for herself as a notable example of diligent and thrifty womanhood, and such a ruler of the household as we learn from Solomon's Proverbs to hold in especial honour. The Haarlem district, moreover, has derived much additional importance from the great engineering work performed thirty years ago, that of draining its famous lake, a sheet of water nearly thirty miles in circuit, which has been converted into good agricultural land, inviting settlers from all parts of Holland. Of the town of Haarlem, the birthplace of Lawrence Coster, sometimes reputed the inventor of printing, we are not called upon to say much upon this occasion; but it is one of the most interesting secondary Dutch cities, and its famous organ in the Cathedral, its picture-gallery at the Townhall, full of life-size groups of seventeenth-century burghers and archers, and its historical memories of the heroic conflict against Spanish tyranny, are sure to gain the visitor's respectful opinion. The subjects delineated by our Artist, however, belong to comfortable rustic life; the family party on a Thursday driving to the weekly butter-market at Middelburg, in the Isle of Walcheren; the farmer, who looks shrewd and wide awake, being probably much engaged in the cattle trade; and the peasant girl of Scheveningen, a fishing village on the sea-coast, which is, though very near the Hague, inhabited by some of the most primitive Dutch folk, little disposed to change their simple ways and manners for those of the rich and polite class of citizens, and of the foreign visitors to that favourite place of marine recreation.

Earl Cairns presided at the annual meeting held on the 12th inst. in Exeter Hall, in connection with Dr. Barnardo's Homes for Orphan and Destitute Children. The accounts showed an overdraft of £8000, towards which subscriptions were announced amounting to over £2300.—On the same day, the annual festival of the Tailors' Benevolent Association was held, and £1008 was subscribed.—The Lord Mayor presided over the twenty-ninth anniversary festival dinner held in connection with the Poplar Hospital for Accidents, when subscriptions were announced to the amount of £1200.—At a meeting, the same day, of the governors of the North-Eastern Hospital for Children it was stated that the only hope of continuing the hospital efficiently lies in the increase of the income by £1000 a year.

A SCHEVENINGEN PEASANT-GIRL.

A WALCHEREN FARMER.

DRIVING TO THE THURSDAY BUTTER MARKET AT MIDDELBURG.

BENEVOLENT OBJECTS.

The Earl of Sandwich has given £1000 to the Dorset County Hospital.

Mr. S. Hope Morley has been elected chairman of the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, City-road, for the year 1884-5, and Mr. Sidney Goswell deputy-chairman.

Major-General Osborn Wilkinson writes, on behalf of the Royal School for Officers' Daughters at Bath, for assistance in defraying the cost of the new wing to be erected for the accommodation of the pupils hitherto in residence at Roehampton. Contributions may be sent to Mr. G. W. Forster, the secretary, at the office of the institution, Craig's-court.

The fifty-second anniversary festival of the United Law Clerks' Society was held on the 11th inst. at the Freemasons' Tavern, subscriptions to the amount of £400 being announced.—On the same day the Printers' Pension, Almshouses, and Orphan Asylum Corporation held its annual dinner at Willis's Rooms, the subscriptions amounting to £1000.—The annual meeting in connection with the Children's Home was held in the evening at Exeter Hall. Towards defraying a large debt £3156 has been promised.

Viscount Hampden, late Speaker of the House of Commons, took the chair at the annual dinner of the friends of the Newspaper Press Fund last Saturday, the subscriptions amounting to £1000.

On Hospital Sunday sermons were delivered and collections made in most of the churches and chapels in the metropolis; and on Saturday in the Jewish synagogues. At St. Paul's Cathedral the amount was £252, and in Westminster Abbey £172; at St. Michael's, Chester-square, £1087; St. Stephen's, South Dulwich, £177; Kensington Congregational Church, £104; St. Mark's, North Audley-street, £204; St. Matthew's, Bayswater, £286; the Temple Church, £216; and St. Andrew's, Well-street, £136. At Mr. Spurgeon's Tabernacle £205 was raised; and at Union Chapel, Islington, Dr. Allon preaching, the collections amounted to £138. The aggregate of the collections in the Jewish synagogues amounted to nearly £1000. The Court of Common Council have given 100 guineas to the fund.

The amount collected in workshops and factories in Birmingham in aid of the local medical charities is £5800, or about £700 more than last year.

A military tournament in aid of the Cambridge Fund for Old and Disabled Soldiers was opened on Monday at the Agricultural Hall, in presence of the Duke of Cambridge, and continued during the week. We give some Illustrations of the tournament.

On Tuesday evening the Lord Mayor presided at Willis's Rooms over the anniversary festival dinner held in connection with the West London Hospital, the subscriptions amounting to £680.

In aid of the Training College for Teachers of the Deaf, at Ealing, a "Mediæval Market in Ivy-clad Ruins" was opened on Wednesday in the Duke of Wellington's Riding School, Knightsbridge, under distinguished patronage—the market continuing open until Saturday (inclusive).

Lady Brassey has announced a drawing-room meeting at 24, Park-lane, on Friday afternoon, the 20th inst., in support of the work of the Popular Ballad Concert Committee.

A drawing-room meeting in aid of the Work among the English in Paris, instituted by Miss Ada Leigh, was to take place on Friday afternoon, June 20, at the Mansion House, the Lord Mayor in the chair, supported by the Archbishop of York, Bishop Tidcombe, Lord Shaftesbury, and other distinguished persons.

There will be a meeting at Grosvenor House, by permission of the Duke and Duchess of Westminster, next Tuesday afternoon, the 24th inst., when the trustees of the Royal Victoria Coffee Hall will explain the objects, plans, and progress of a new movement. The Duke will preside, and several influential gentlemen have promised to speak.

At the Royal Hospital for Incurables, West-hill, Putney-heath, a sale of the inmates' work, for their own benefit, will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, next week. The sale will be open each day from two to seven o'clock.

Lord Chelmsford will preside next Thursday at the annual meeting of the friends of the Infant Orphan Asylum, which will be held at the Asylum, Wanstead.

A floral fête and fair, under Royal patronage, will be held in the Duke of Wellington's Riding School, Albert-gate, Hyde Park, on July 1 and two following days, in aid of the funds of the Surgical Appliance Society for the Relief of the Crippled Poor. The Lord Mayor of London and Lady Mayoress will attend in state, accompanied by Lieut.-Colonel Cowan, Sheriff of London and Middlesex, and Mrs. Cowan.

The summer fête of the Asylum for Idiots will take place at Earlswood on Wednesday, July 2.

Princess Christian has consented to open a bazaar at the Athenæum, Highbury New Park, N., on Tuesday, July 8, in aid of the funds of the Industrial Home for Boys, Islington.

Through the kindness of Sir John Maule, Q.C., the Master of the Inner Temple Gardens, a supply of water has been provided for the use of the children who are admitted to these gardens every evening between six and nine o'clock.

The polling at Lincoln for a member to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. J. Hinde Palmer took place last Saturday, Mr. Ruston (Liberal) being returned by a majority of 971 over Mr. C. Hall (Conservative). The election makes no change in the balance of parties in the House of Commons.

The Chadwick Museum, erected in the public park at Bolton by the munificence of the late Dr. Chadwick, was opened on the 12th inst. by Alderman Dobson, who was presented with a gold key, with a suitable inscription. The museum contains fine art and natural history collections, contributions from South Kensington, and a room furnished with pictures by Mr. Thomasson, M.P. A notable feature is the exhibition of industrial art supplied by firms in the town.

About the middle of every year arrive the summer festivals of our two ancient English Universities. This week sees both "Commemoration" at Oxford and "Commencement" at Cambridge inaugurated, and nearly the same indoor ceremonies and outdoor amusements take place as always accompany the academical play-time.—The Mathematical, Classical, and Theological Tripos lists were published in the Senate House at Cambridge last Saturday. Mr. W. S. Sheppard, of Trinity, is the senior wrangler; Mr. Workman, of Trinity, is the second wrangler; Mr. Bragg, also of Trinity, is the third; and Mr. Young, of St. Peter's, is the fourth. The lady students in the Senior Optimes are Miss Vintner, of Girton; Miss Fitzgerald, of Newnham; and Miss Edith Dalby, of Newnham. Mr. William Fleetwood Sheppard is a son of the late Edmund Sheppard, one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of Queensland, Australia, and nephew of the Rev. H. Fleetwood Sheppard, author of various musical works. He was born in Sydney, in November, 1862, and was educated at Brisbane, and then at the Charterhouse, from 1875 to 1881 (Head Master Dr. William Haig Brown). He obtained a foundation scholarship at Trinity in April, 1881, and won prizes each year.

NOVELS.

The fresh, quite original, and vigorous story of *Berna Boyle*, which Mrs. J. H. Riddell has been writing for this Journal during the past six months, already makes three volumes, published by Bentley, though its concluding chapters will be given by us next week. It is, as now set forth on the title-page, "a love-story of the County Down"; but it is an eminently Irish love-story, with a wild hero, Gorman Muir, who attempts to carry off the young lady by stratagem, and force her to marry him. This is a remnant of ancient Celtic savage customs, which has notoriously been tolerated or condoned by popular opinion in Ireland within the lifetime of the present generation. Gorman Muir, however, though he has been sadly misled by evil counsels, is far from being such a desperate ruffian as any Englishman would be who could think of kidnapping his intended bride; the reason of which difference, we suppose, might be found in the fact that it was never an approved custom among the Saxon race. Ethnologists and other philosophers have written many learned essays upon the institution of a show of compulsion, as the formal preliminary to nuptials, recognised by the barbarous nations of mankind. There are some countries, indeed, where a native Berna Boyle would think herself shamefully slighted, if her lover did not steal her from her home apparently against her will. Our readers, who have followed this story with great interest, will by this time have made up their minds whether or not Gorman Muir ought to be forgiven, and whether or not he can be converted into a desirable husband. We pronounce no verdict upon these questions, nor shall we here anticipate the end of the story; but we may be permitted to say, as we should have said with equal readiness if it had been produced independently of this Journal, that the author's high powers in delineating strong-featured characters, in describing their behaviour, conducting their dialogues, and surrounding them with a combination of incidents, which calls forth dramatic interest in their mutual relations, have never been more successfully exerted. The secondary personages of the tale, Berna's foolish mother, Gorman's wicked father, Mr. and Mrs. Vince, Mr. Garnsey, and Captain Ludham, are thoroughly lifelike, and some of the conversation is not only vivacious, but humorous, in a remarkable degree. Mrs. Riddell has fairly earned high rank among the lady novelists of the present day.

A welcome, and a very hearty welcome, should await the charming story entitled *A Roman Singer*: by F. Marion Crawford (Macmillan and Co.), which is a simple, old-fashioned, exhilarating tale of true love triumphant over parental tyranny and jealous rivalry and dangerous temptations and wicked designs. But, though old-fashioned as regards simplicity of narrative and healthiness of sentiment, the romance is perfectly new and fresh in many respects. The most objectionable parts of the two volumes are those in which it is evidently considered facetious to make an old German military officer speak English with German idioms and a German construction. A very little fun of this kind goes a long way; it soon begins to pall; and it looks very much as if the writer had drawn upon Ollendorf for a supply of this very mild wit and humour. Moreover, as the German officer is supposed to be speaking Italian, for which purpose he would already have had to modify his native forms of expression to some extent, it is more difficult than ever to enter thoroughly into the by no means excruciating joke. For the romance is coloured Italian; and that colour, if it cannot be considered to intensify a joker's facetiousness, is a very powerful auxiliary, when, as in the present instance, a novel is full of grace and elegant tracery. A theory, too, is intended to be illustrated by the story; that a great artist may aspire to the hand of the high-born damsel, however humble his origin, if only he live purely and honourably, and have a heart quite free from guile. At Rome there resided an old professor, who had once been a landed proprietor, and was still a Count, and he adopted as his own son an ugly little waif, who was an orphan-child born on the Count's estate, and who had inherited from his mother a miraculous voice. This voice a teacher of singing hears, and offers to cultivate without fee or reward, beyond the certain hope of seeing the gratuitous help more than repaid by success on the part of him who owns the voice. The first use the pupil makes of his improved vocal powers is to win the heart of a noble damsel; a feat which he achieves with an ingenuity and artfulness worthy of the country which produced a Macchiavelli. Involuntarily, however, he at the same time takes captive a beautiful baroness, a married woman, who, to the disgrace of her sex, makes shameless love to him, and openly attempts to seduce him from the path of virtue and consistancy. She is unsuccessful, and intentionally or unintentionally—for the matter is clouded with a doubt—poisons herself. But all is not yet by any means smooth for the singer and the noble damsel, who would fain make two into one flesh; for the damsel has a regular Tartar of a father (the German officer already mentioned), and he puts her under arrest, urging her to marry a wealthy banker, who is a most eccentric, wonderful, gifted, diabolical, and, at the same time, amusing madman, and saying that he would much rather see her in her grave than joined in holy matrimony with an operatic singer. How love, as usual, triumphs over such little obstacles must be ascertained from the novel itself, which is an unusually pretty piece of work, with a hero who, though a waif at first and an operatic singer afterwards, acquits himself all through like a mixture of a noble ancient Roman, a mediæval paladin, and a modern man of ten thousand.

Warlocks have been very much neglected lately by the novelists, but in *The Wizard's Son*: by Mrs. Oliphant (Macmillan and Co.), a warlock is introduced with not a little effect. There is a mysterious light, also, which exercises the minds of superstitious dwellers upon the lochs, or rather upon a loch in the Highlands of Scotland, and which appears to be traced at last to a mystic lamp. This lamp is accidentally overturned by the heroine with an explosion worthy of dynamite, with a conflagration indescribable, and with an accompaniment of ruins in which the hero and heroine are all but buried. However, as the hero and heroine emerge alive, and on terms of perfect understanding one with the other, and as the warlock and the mysteries and the terrible secret seem alone to share the demolition of the stones and mortar, the result may be regarded as a cause for general rejoicing. The heroine of the story is a certain angelic Oona, which is another way, of course, of spelling Una. She is a "lady of the lake," or of the loch, quite as peerless a maiden as Ellen Douglas of Scott's poem; and the union effected between her and the hero, whereby a "perfect man"—a sort of being which the hero alone assuredly was not—is compounded, is what was required to break all spells and gain the victory over the powers of darkness and all manner of evil. The tale appears to insinuate that a young gentlemen who unexpectedly comes in for a title and estates, if he desires to preserve himself from all that is weak and wicked in his own nature and from all that is likely to alarm him and try him and afflict him in his new position, should get an Oona to give him the powerful protection of her beauty, purity, goodness, and innocence. But then an Oona is not to be found much more easily than wisdom; certainly not on every Highland loch or in every three-volume novel. And what would have happened to the hero, had Julia Herbert "hooked" him, or had Kate Williamson accepted the extraordinary, the humiliating, the almost insulting offer he made her, it makes one almost shudder to think. The warlock would certainly have worked his wicked will; for Katie Williamson, though she meant well, though she had excellent common-sense, and though she would have fought like the British Light Infantry, wanted the spirituality of Oona: and that spirituality it was which gave Oona her peculiar influence.

It is a task of some difficulty to disinter the narrative which forms the connecting thread of three volumes entitled *Goddess Fortune* (Messrs. Trübner) from the mass of reflections and irrelevant observations under which it is buried. The author has a wonderful talent for mystification and singularly little notion of writing English. He might as well have started by saying, with the needy knife grinder, "Story! God bless you! I have none to tell, Sir!" for though there is in his book a confused rigmarole about the changing of two infant boys, one the son of an Earl and the other of a Baronet, without the smallest motive being assigned for the act on the part of either the mother who inspired or the nurse who accomplished it, nothing of any importance hangs on the discovery of which was which that takes place in the third volume. Both have grown up to be noble young men in every sense of the word, and the ladies of their love are adepts in the arts of mental analysis and self-torture. One of these gentle beings is at first in some danger of falling in love with the man who proves to be her elder half-brother, and he is in similar peril, but the girl's bosom friend, moved by some prophetic instinct or selfish impulse, warns him to postpone the expression of his feelings, and thus averts such a catastrophe as Goethe handled with consummate skill in telling the story of Mignon's parentage. It costs the author a world of trouble to bring the right and fitting lovers together, though he does it in the long run; but instead of making both couples "happy for ever after," he assigns that felicity only to one of them. The fate of the other pair is so sad that its improbability is a relief, for the hero is drowned in endeavouring with one arm and one oar to navigate a boat on a piece of ornamental water in his late-found father's park, while his betrothed, being gifted with second sight, beholds the accident as in a dream. When the letter announcing his death actually arrives this ill-starred maiden loses her reason and thenceforth vanishes from our ken. All the characters speak the same strange and involved language, and are, in fact, the mouthpieces through whom the author expounds his own theories, and makes his own remarks on things in general.

The freedom of the city of London has been presented to the Earl of Shaftesbury.

The State apartments of Windsor Castle are closed to the public.

Mr. J. H. Barclay, R.S.A., has been elected treasurer of the Royal Scottish Academy, in the room of Mr. Perigal.

Mr. Frederick Penna gives another dramatic recital of "Macbeth" this (Saturday) afternoon at Steinway Hall.

The matinée in aid of the School of Dramatic Art will take place at St. James's Hall on July 10, instead of the 3rd, as previously announced.

M. Lubimoff, the Russian actor, has postponed his appearance at the Vaudeville in the new play entitled "A Young Wife" until Tuesday afternoon, July 1.

After an absence of three years' duration, Mr. F. Maccabe has returned to London. He will make his reappearance in "Begone, Dull Care," at St. James's Hall, on the 23rd inst.

Mrs. Everett, a débutante, is giving a series of dramatic recitals in the Banqueting-Room, St. James's Hall, on successive Thursday evenings.

A ball to the Mayors and Mayoresses of the different cities and towns in the United Kingdom will be given at the Mansion House on July 23.

The Liverpool City Council have resolved to continue in the House of Commons their opposition to the Manchester Ship Canal Bill.

A system of electric lighting applied to houses and shops, the electrical power being supplied from a central station by cables, has been inaugurated at Colchester.

The Reserve Squadron, under Rear-Admiral Sir A. Hoskins, has gone on a six weeks' cruise to Heligoland, Stornoway, and the west coast of Ireland.

A banquet was given in the Dover Townhall on the 12th inst. in celebration of the knighthood conferred on Sir Richard Dickeson, four times Mayor of Dover.

Mr. S. F. Langham, who has been for many years Coroner for Westminster, has been elected Coroner for the city of London and Southwark.

Sir Thomas Brassey has contributed £9000 and Mr. Baring £100 to the funds of the Indian Institute, originated by Professor Monier Williams.

A Parliamentary paper issued last Saturday shows that the total income for the year ended March 31, 1884, was £87,205,181, and the total expenditure £86,999,564.

The summer exhibition of the Essex Agricultural Society has been held at Saffron-Walden. The cattle classes were especially good, and far in excess of those entered last year.

Sir Sydney H. Waterlow, M.P., late Alderman of the city of London, has been presented with a piece of plate value 100 guineas, in recognition of his services as a governor of the Irish Society for a period of ten years.

With reference to our Illustration, in last week's issue, of the Antwerp Dog Show, we are asked to state that Messrs. Spratt, of Bermondsey, were the contractors for the tents and the fittings and feeding of the dogs, and that their arrangements gave perfect satisfaction.

A correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, writing from Glossop, says:—"A Gloucestershire farmer has come in for a great windfall by the death of a resident of Glossop, a wealthy man, who was found dead in bed at an hotel in London last week. The deceased, who died intestate, possessed estates worth £150,000, and leaves upwards of £1,000,000 personalty. The heir-at-law is a cousin, aged seventy-six, who comes into possession of the estates, and takes a share of the personalty, which will be divided amongst the other relatives."

The thirty-sixth annual conference of the Wesleyan Local Preachers' Mutual Aid Association has been held this week in Manchester, when there were about 300 delegates present from all parts of the country, and a deputation from the American Methodist Churches. It was stated that nearly £75,000 had been distributed in relief since the formation of the society, and that there are now 3948 members.—At a conference of Methodists held this week at Belfast it was reported that there are in Ireland 24,868 members, being a net increase of 480, with 531 on trial. They have 359 chapels, and 1869 other preaching places, and there are 46,341 hearers on the Sabbath and 21,622 additional hearers on week days.

MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

"Prize-Day," cantata for ladies' voices, composed by Charles Marshall (R. Cocks and Co.). This little work contains some melodious writing, and should be welcome in drawing-room circles. From the same publishers we have:—"No Dream," "The Waif," and "Shoeing and Wooing," three pleasing songs, respectively, by A. L. Mora, E. H. Lemare, and E. Birch. Messrs. Cocks also publish "Murmuring Shells (Reverie), by Cotsford Dick, and "Clinquant" ("Morceau Poëtique") by L. H. Meyer—two pianoforte pieces that are showy, without being difficult.

"John Sebastian Bach." By P. Spitta. (Novello, Ewer, and Co.) We have here the second volume of an English translation from the valuable German biography, which treats of the work, and influence on the music of Germany, of the great composer, from 1685 to 1750. The translation has been very carefully made by Clara Bell and J. A. Fuller-Maitland. The third volume will complete a work that will form one of the most valuable of recent additions to the musical library.

"A Treatise on Harmony," by Palgrave Simpson (Boosey and Co.), is a comprehensive work on a subject that seems to be exhaustless, so many and such different theories having been disseminated. The book now referred to is evidently the result of much study and thought, and will be found well worthy of consultation. It comprises thirty-one sections, each treating of some important point; the remarks being clearly and succinctly expressed, and appropriately illustrated by some hundreds of examples culled from composers of various schools and periods.

"The First Miracle:" a Sacred Cantata. (F. Pitman.) This work—the composition of Mr. A. H. Brown—is a setting of words by Mr. W. F. Rock. The text deals very happily with the sacred event, "When Christ at Cana's feast, by power Divine, Indued cold water with the warmth of wine"; and on this basis the composer has supplied a series of movements, for solo voices and chorus, in which there is much pleasing music, with occasional touches of the Handelian style. The vocal score is introduced by a very effective instrumental "Nuptial March." The work is well worthy the attention of amateur choral societies.

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NOTICE.—The CORNHILL MAGAZINE for JULY contains the commencement of a NEW STORY by JAMES PAYN, entitled THE TALK OF THE TOWN.
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London: Printed and Published at the Office, 198, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes, in the County of Middlesex, by GEORGE C. LEIGHTON, 198, Strand, aforesaid.—SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1884.

DRAWN BY R. C. WOODVILLE.

"Do not talk about leaving me. I cannot—cannot bear it!"

BERNA BOYLE.

BY MRS. J. H. RIDDELL,

AUTHOR OF "GEORGE GEITH," "THE SENIOR PARTNER," ETC.

CHAPTER XLIX

THOUGH it was early spring, and not cold, Mrs. Ulick Boyle sat in the little parlour at Clear Stream cowering over a turf fire. No child's puzzle, cast aside in haste and confusion, could have looked less likely to be made serviceable once more than the widow. She was thinner than ever, but her figure had lost all its former symmetry. Huddled together regardless of appearances, her black dress brown with wear, her cap cast aside, an old shawl drawn across her bosom and tied round her waist, she no more resembled the still frisky Milly, who returned to Belfast determined to be seen and to conquer, than the featherless, disconsolate, excommunicated Jackdaw of Rheims—that bird which, in the pride and glory of his sleek wickedness, stole the ring.

Poor Mrs. Boyle! if her summer had been a long one, it was all over now; not even the chill sun of autumn threw any cheering beam athwart the drear landscape of a wasted, useless life. Across the bare fields, wherein no crop of promise had ever sprung, whence no golden grain was ever carried, winter, in a moment, as it seemed, began to stretch a pall of misty gloom. There had been no intermediate state of crisp October—of gorgeous colour—of woods where the withered leaves of a kindly and useful past make a fragrant pathway for the feet of those pacing slowly onward to a land where the trees are green eternally, and flowers bloom for aye.

She had never conned a lesson save in the school of folly. She had never really cared for nor considered anyone save herself; she had no root of goodness, no depth of soil; and accordingly, when the evil days came, she shrivelled up under adversity's cutting wind.

For months she had been ailing, though she said, "I'll be right well come the spring, Ruth; and then they'll find, spite the way they've striven to keep me under, that I spring up better than the blessed grass. As my poor father (you mind him?) used to say, 'A cat has nine lives; but you have ninety, Milly.'"

Just about that time Mrs. Boyle seemed to find it hard work to sustain one life, even though possessed of ninety. The green, damp winter had, to use her own expression, "tried her sore." Cold followed cold. She was racked with pains, which she stoutly denied were rheumatic.

"It's like your fun," she said, when this was suggested, "making an old woman of me!" She missed the congenial society which had upheld her. "I'm almost dead for the want of a bit of life," she complained. The future looked very dark. The time was approaching when, according to Mr. Vince's statement, all help from him was to cease; and, in fine, if the widow did not say, "All things are against me," it was merely because that particular Scriptural expression did not chance to be included in the strange medley of Biblical odds and ends stored away in her scattered brain.

Why or wherefore she did not know, but her "luck had turned," and the conviction that this was so proved a very bitter pill to swallow.

During the previous summer her sun had seemed in the ascendant—now it was below the horizon.

The friends who delightedly gathered round to hear of the conquest she had made, and ask particulars concerning the notable captive of her bow and spear, had long been conspicuous by their absence. One by one they dropped off. Even the last of the party, Mrs. Gray and 'Tilda Sheill, had achieved the feat of making Mrs. Boyle understand it was possible to have too much of a good thing.

Amongst all her former acquaintances there was not a person who had not wearied of the widow. "There is no good in her," said Mrs. Gray to Miss Sheill, after the pretended outbreak of smallpox episode; "I never could call my house my own while she was coming to it. She was either 'on the go!' from morning to night, or else sitting in that old arm-chair, talking nonsense such as a child would have thought shame to speak. I've often quaked for fear any person of sense might call while she was here. I'm fairly tired of her, Tilda, so I tell you."

They were all tired of her. With a touching unanimity, when Mrs. Boyle's former acquaintances found there was no man breaking his heart for the widow—that Richard Vince had withdrawn the light of his countenance, and that the great man's cousin would shortly only be able to reckon on sixty pounds a year—they suddenly discovered Milly "had gone off wonderfully," "trouble had changed her," she "wasn't the woman she was;" and then they began forming plans for her future which should cause her to remove a long way from Belfast.

There was no single spot on the world's surface where, they felt assured, she might not do better than near them. Times had changed, and not for the happier. Not a soul now said, "Stop among us that you know, Milly, and that know you."

Sensitiveness was not a fault which could be assigned to Mrs. Boyle; yet as it is not wholly impossible to make even a rhinoceros feel, conviction at length entered her mind that "she wasn't wanted."

There are few things harder to bear than knowledge of this kind, and Mrs. Boyle did not bear it at all well. She fumed and fretted, and tried to conquer Fate; but it would not do. When a lady is received by another lady who enters a room attired for walking, and who does not sit down or ask her visitor to sit down, the combat becomes unequal. Further, when she is not offered "bite or sup," and her querulous complaints of ill-health are answered by wondering remarks as to why the invalid does not stop at home and nurse herself, it is as well to throw up the sponge at once. One day Mrs. Boyle did this. It was then her poor puzzle was cast aside, never to be pieced together again in this world.

"I feel mighty cold and chilled, Ruth," she said. "Make me a drop of two-milk whey. Maybe it would warm me."

To the end of her life Berna Boyle will always thank God that she "stuck to her mother." That mother had tried her as only woman born of woman can try a woman; but at the last she won her reward. To say that Mrs. Boyle ever grew loving and motherly would be to assert an impossibility; but during the course of those few sad months she turned to her daughter, and

clung to her with a tenacity which, though it had its source in utter feebleness of character, did duty for all the affection she was capable of feeling. She never ceased to find fault with Berna; there was nothing the girl could do that gave entire satisfaction. Her faults were constantly recited; her sins of omission and commission furnished the text for many a rambling sermon. But as the widow tottered onward, disputing each step of the way along which Death was leading her, she developed a restless liking for Berna, and never seemed at ease unless the girl were by her side.

A doctor had been called in; but now Mrs. Boyle "wouldn't have him at any price."

"If I'm to die, let me die in peace," she said. And indeed, when a patient is in low spirits and wants keeping up there does seem some cruelty in talking about decline and a broken-down constitution, the rules of ordinary prudence having been overstepped, with a few remarks thrown in about advancing age, and people being unable to do with impunity when old the things which at twenty left no bad effects.

"I wonder how he would like for anybody to say the things to him he said to me; and beside his white hair I'm a child, in a manner of speaking. I'd like well for one of the big men out of Belfast to see me. If Richard Vince was not made of pig iron, he might have brought somebody with sense to give me something. Ah, when the doctors can do no more for him, maybe he'll wish he had spent a trifle of his filthy lucre on me. But it'll come home to him, never fear. I mayn't be here to see, but whoever lives can mind my words. What's that you're saying? Will I let you write and ask a clever doctor to come down? If that isn't you all over! I'd laugh if it didn't hurt my inside. Where's the fee to come from? Have you found a full stocking in the thatch, or a crock of gold in the chimney?"

This was a more sensible question than Mrs. Boyle usually adventured on. At that moment the domestic purse was sadly lean. Berna and Ruth had been what the master mind styled "madly wasteful." That they refrained from spending on themselves was only an additional sin.

"Just as if I wanted anything more than a cup of weak tea and a bit of dry bread!" said the widow. "But you're that foolish, Berna, you'll leave us naked beggars before you've done, I can see plainly."

The household could not have proved much worse off had this dismal prophecy been accomplished. Heaven only knows what Berna had hoped in the way of help; but it is certain that, owing to her "wild way of getting everything came into her head," the pecuniary position had become desperate. In May a half-year's income would be due; but then Mr. Vince's help was to cease, and they were in debt to Mr. Muir, with whom Mrs. Boyle, for reasons of her own, had continued to deal.

"Never you trouble your head about me," he said to Berna. "I daresay we won't fall out over the account." And again, "Your mother never would be fit to move at May, even if she'd got a place to go to. Stop as long as you like. I wouldn't wonder but me and Mr. Vince could make that all right between us." "After what you've done me out of, Miss Boyle, you needn't be making as if you couldn't stand being a pound or two in my debt. I'm vexed for your mother. She's a foolish woman, I allow, but there's not much harm about her. Once the fruit comes in, we'll keep her supplied constant. She always did allow the Ardilaw black currants were the finest she ever tasted."

And Berna could not answer either in assent or dissent, or smile, when she remembered why her mother had so praised the produce of Mr. Muir's garden.

"Poor mamma," she thought; "poor, poor mamma!"

For the beginning of the end had come, and the end itself could not be far remote. It was not always that Mrs. Boyle was able to get even so far as the parlour. Often, when she did rise, she remained entirely in her bed-room; while for days together she remained in bed, declaring vehemently all the time she was "getting on as well as well could be."

"I was just looking round me," she said, on that breezy afternoon in April, seated close to the fire, and bending forward so as to get the full benefit of whatever heat it gave out, "and considering how soon a house goes to wrack and ruin when a mistress is laid by. It's well to be seen you haven't had me dusting, and settling, and contriving. Often and often I lie awake in my bed, wondering what you'll do when I am gone. Tell me that now," she added, turning suddenly towards Berna.

"Oh, mamma, do not talk in that way!"

"In what way? Why, you poor foolish thing, I declare you are crying! You are a fine one to have about anybody that's ill! I'm not going to leave you. Many's the time I know you have thought you'd be better without me, taking your own headstrong way. But you've found what that has done for you; and now, when I pass a word in joke, you can't bear it, but begin whimpering like a baby—and I, that never could endure the sight of wet eyes!"

Berna went to the hearthrug, and knelt beside her mother.

"I will try not to vex you," she said, stroking the wasted cheek in an agony of sorrow; "but do not talk about leaving me. I cannot—cannot bear it!"

"You see who was right after all. Where would you find another to put up with you as I've done? I was always good to you, Berna, always. I never lifted my hand to you, though you've often angered me sore. Maybe, if I'd beaten you more, things might have been better for us all; but my heart wouldn't let me. Many's the time, when you were a child, you've turned and looked at me with those big eyes of yours, till I wondered sometimes if you were right in your head."

"Perhaps I was not, mother—perhaps I am not now."

"I don't know that I would go as far as that. You've improved wonderfully since I've had you all to myself to train up in the way you should go, through green pastures and beside still waters. It's inconceivable the effect good example has. Besides, you wanted taking down, and you have been taken down. Goodness knows, it's a broken and a contrite heart you've caused me; but if the disgrace is of benefit to you in the long-run, you'll not hear me complain. As my father used to say, when I was running my legs off, first for one and then for another, 'the last person you ever think of is Milly Vince.'"

"Shall I put a pillow to your back, mamma?"

"What would I want with a pillow? To hear you talk, anybody might think I was getting ready for my grave. I'd be easy enough, mind and body, if it wasn't for wondering what we'll do about money."

"I wish you would not vex yourself about money. We shall get enough, somehow."

"If that isn't your father all over! I never could get him to listen to a word about his affairs; and see the end he came to. And then there's you wouldn't behave as you ought. Why, we might have been rolling in comfort, instead of starving with the cold and hunger, had you known how to keep yourself to yourself, and leave a man alone who wanted to have no sort of say to you."

"Perhaps I was all wrong," agreed Berna, meekly; "but do not think about it now."

"I wonder if you wrote to Richard Vince, and said you were sorry for the shame and trouble you have brought on us all, and will try to be a better girl in the future, whether he would send us a few pounds?"

"I do not know, mamma. I can write."

"After all, maybe it might be better not to let yourself down too low. He would perhaps cast it up to you afterwards. Ah! he is the mean wretch, and she's not much better; and that just minds me of something I want to say to Ruth. Call her, Berna."

"How are you feeling yourself now, mem?" asked Ruth, as she entered.

"Oh, I am well enough! I'm only sitting over the fire resting myself. I'm not going to die yet awhile—I'm not thinking of dying. Still, I suppose even the best of us must go to a better world sometime. More's the pity. I am sure this world is good enough for me; but, of course, He that made it ought to be able to judge, and it's not everybody is contented and happy like I am."

"It's not everybody wants to stop here," remarked Ruth, feeling something was expected from her.

"Isn't that what I've been saying? Well, when I have to go—I'm not going yet; and it's likely as not, with my good temper and fine constitution, and easy way of laughing at the worst of troubles, I mightn't have to go this couple of hundred years yet—but supposing I happened to be needed in heaven in a hurry, and had to start at once, I want to tell you I'll never rest in my grave if you put me in Dundonald churchyard."

"Mamma, mamma!" moaned Berna.

"What's the matter now? I am not afraid, like you. I've done my duty faithfully, and no one can say a word to me wherever I go. What I want you both to promise me is, that some way you'll get me to Ballynure. It's no use talking to Richard Vince. He'd lay me in any hole—the back of a ditch he'd consider good enough for me. Do quit crying, Berna; it provokes me to see you. Can't I speak about a funeral or anything comfortable without starting the tears running down your cheeks like pebbles?"

"If it'll be any ease to you, Mem," said Ruth—and her own eyes were not dry or her voice quite steady—"I'll promise to do all that lies in my power to take you where you want; still, you must mind it's a long, long road."

"I know that. But I never was one made any objection to travelling; and I'd be decently put in the ground there, which I wouldn't here. The people for miles round would come to the burying just for curiosity, and on Sundays they'd be saying to one another, 'This is where Milly Vince is that made the great match.' While at Dundonald, if anybody ever talked about me at all, it would be only as the widow woman whose daughter went off with a man wanted nothing to say to her of any sort or description."

"When you cannot stay with us, mamma," said Berna, in a voice choked with tears, "we will try to do what you wish."

"Say you will do it, and then I'll be content. With all your faults, I never knew you break your word. You will? That's right; not that you could have done less, after all I've gone through for you. And Ruth, you'll see me over yourself, won't you? Ah! it's a fine heartsome place up there; not like this, nothing but trees and houses, but bare as my hand, with the wild wind sweeping across it. When I get better, we'll go and take a look at my calf-ground, won't we, Berna?"

"Ye-es, mamma."

"Did you ever see her like?" demanded Mrs. Boyle; "roaring and crying as if she wasn't a year old. For all you've been such a bad child to your mother, you're fond of me, though, aren't you, Berna? And I think you might as well write a line to Richard, and try if he can't be shamed into sending a crumb or two from his wasteful table to prevent his own uncle's daughter dying of starvation."

"I will write to-morrow," said Berna, deferring the evil day; but when the morrow came there was no need for her to write. A letter arrived from Bath, inclosing a banker's draft for £50.

"We're made now—we'll do yet!" exclaimed the widow; and there was a terrible contrast between her jubilant words and cracked weak voice. "I knew the old woman couldn't hold out for ever. She's got to a time of life when, if she intends to make her soul, she ought to be making it. She'll be sending us lots of these—maybe one a month, I wouldn't wonder a bit."

"We can have a doctor from Belfast to see you now," suggested Berna, feeling it better to defer the question of future benefactions.

"It mightn't be so ill done, though I grudge the money, and would rather put it past to buy a new dress for myself. I think if I could get as far as Lindsays, and see what they have fit to put on my back, I'd feel a heap the better for it. But there, what's the use of talking in a place where there's not a car standing for hire!"

The new doctor did not fall into the mistake the old had done. He said the patient ought to be kept up, and that she was quite at liberty to rise, and even walk in the sunshine, when she felt strong enough to do so.

"Well!" he exclaimed, echoing Mrs. Boyle's question, "of course you will soon be as well as ever you were;" and then, when he was going away, he said to Berna, "Better keep your mother cheerful. Nothing accelerates the progress of disease so much as despondency. With care, the poor lady may still last some months."

"Do you mean that she is dangerously ill?" asked Berna. "Can not you cure her?"

"The College of Physicians could not do that," he answered gravely; "it's a mere question of time."

Yes, it had come to be a mere question of time, and not a long time either. Though patterns were sent for and brought out to Clear Stream, that new dress was never bought. Mrs. Boyle thought she would let the purchase "stand over" till able to go into Belfast herself, and turn everything upside down in her search for a bargain. Before a month had passed she began to wander a little at times, and talk of the old days and her father, as though both were still present. In that delirium, caused by utter physical exhaustion, there was nothing said Berna had not heard hundreds of times before, when the sufferer was strong and well; but the story sounded differently when heard in the watches of the night; when the feeble voice emote upon the ear with a weird sense of unreality, and mirth sounded strange, and weak laughter horrible, in view of the grim presence that pervaded a room in which Death could almost be seen, waiting patiently for his victim.

She recalled all the old scenes—tossing restlessly, she would murmur the name of some one who had been lying for years under the churchyard sod. She had many fretful complaints to make about the Boyles' "wicked hatred against a harmless young wife"; but of later events her memory, happily, seemed to hold no account.

In her lucid moments—if, indeed, lucid is a word which could ever properly be applied to that unstable, wandering mind—she conceived the wildest infatuations to see all sorts and conditions of persons.

She would have liked the very beggars brought in, that she might talk to them, and occasionally grew quite excited when her fancy was crossed.

But through all she never forgot to seek her daughter's hand; never seemed content when Berna left the room. Restless while dying as she had been in the days of her health, she could not remain quiet for any lengthened period; indeed, at the last, Ruth would not have known she was gone for ever had it not been for the sudden and utter stillness of the room. It was at the dead of night, and Berna hoped her mother slept. Ruth, however, stole noiselessly to the bedside, and, lightly moving the sheet, looked at a face on which the grey shadows were already settling down. "It is all over, Miss Berna, dear," she said in a solemn whisper.

Yes, it was all over; and the noblest and least selfish woman that ever breathed could have been nursed with no greater care, or mourned over with truer, tenderer grief.

"She'll trouble nobody any more," was Miss Muir's comment, uttered in a tone which implied Mrs. Boyle had been a long-suffering saint, throughout her life misunderstood and persecuted by the inhabitants of a wicked world.

CHAPTER I.

Probably no man ever, in a religious and respectable way, felt more rejoiced than Mr. Vince, when he heard that "Almighty God, of His great mercy, had taken unto Himself the soul of" Millicent, relict of Ulick Boyle.

Of course he said it was a very sad thing; but he did not think it was sad—quite the contrary. Had he spoken out his mind, people would have found he looked upon Mrs. Boyle's "translation" as a most happy event.

Had it been possible for him to unbend, he could have shouted and danced for joy. She had been a thorn in his flesh, a cramp to him, a running sore, a dread by day and a terror by night; and now he had done with her, at all events, till he too passed the boundary, when he earnestly hoped he should find himself in a world wide enough to avoid all chance of contact with his "own first cousin."

"My dear," he said to Mrs. Vince, "I have bad news from Dundonald. That objectionable person, Mr. Muir, called at the office to-day, to let me know Mrs. Boyle died at a quarter to two this morning. I at once went out to Clear Stream Cottage to offer such assistance as might be required."

"That was most good and kind of you," exclaimed Mrs. Vince, even while she thought that this extraordinary act of generosity could only be regarded in the light of a thank-offering to whatever is an equivalent to the Blessed Virgin in the mind of a good Presbyterian.

"At such a time I could not remember any small pique of my own, or any indiscretion on the part of Miss Boyle," answered Mr. Vince, with a modest consciousness of virtue.

"Thank you, Richard, thank you heartily."

"While Haffey was calling a car, I wrote a couple of letters, communicating the distressing intelligence to the Dowager and Sir Herbert Boyle. I thought"——

"They would be as glad to hear the news as yourself," was Mrs. Vince's mental finish to the sentence, but she only said, "Of course they ought to know, and as soon as possible, too."

"If it had not been for that unfortunate business about young Muir, Miss Boyle might have"——

"Fiddledee-dee!" interrupted Mrs. Vince. "The Dowager will see to her now poor Mrs. Boyle is out of the way."

"You think so?"

"Don't think—feel sure. Richard, we must have the girl here."

Mr. Vince cleared his throat twice.

"Do you know, Marcella," he said, "I think we ought to proceed cautiously. *Impulse* is very well, but *prudence* is better. I do not wish to say a word which might cause you to imagine I found fault with your kindness to my relative; for in estimating it, I never can forget it was on one connected with *me* you showered benefits. Still, we may do well to remember that it involved us in much unpleasantness with the weak creature who is gone, and that we have children of our own growing up, for whom Miss Boyle would prove an uncle irable companion."

"We must make up our minds, though, now as to what we mean to do about her," answered Mrs. Vince. "While we are hesitating the Boyles will have invited Berna; then it will be too late for us to take the initiative."

"But only consider, my dear, the talk there has been about her."

"Put an end to it by asking her here. Everyone will understand she never could have been invited to Craigvallen unless *you* were quite satisfied that she was not to blame."

"There is much in what you say," agreed Mr. Vince; and then he paused, as if, struck afresh by his own greatness, he was anxious to survey it.

"All this time I have forgotten to ask how Berna herself is."

"The old servant says but poorly. She was lying down, being completely exhausted. I propose to go to the cottage again early to-morrow. Meantime, I have left all necessary instructions. The only difficulty seems to be that Mrs. Boyle expressed some sort of wish to be buried at Ballynure, which, of course, is out of the question. Why should she wish to have all that was mortal laid at Ballynure?"

"Why, indeed," echoed Mrs. Vince, "having once left that earthly paradise?"

"Such a proceeding would be most inconvenient and—undesirable," remarked Mr. Vince.

"Of course it would. All I hope is that she has not extracted any promise from Berna about the matter."

"That is exactly what I fear she has done; and though such a promise must, under the circumstances, have been of necessity conditional, still it is not improbable Miss Boyle may attach undue importance to it."

"Then I ought to go to Clear Stream with you to talk to the girl. What *can* it matter where we are buried?"

In his heart Mr. Vince considered it mattered a great deal to him; but he did not express this sentiment, for he honestly considered Mrs. Boyle ought to have had no preference on the subject, and that if her mind were so ill-regulated as to entertain one, no human being was bound to regard it.

Berna, however, held a different idea. She had promised that her mother should be buried at Ballynure, and she meant to keep her word to the letter. She was obliged to Mr. Vince, and grateful to his wife; but she stuck to her text. No argument could induce her to waver. It was the last wish of her dead that she could gratify; and though Mr. Vince evinced anger and Mrs. Vince regret, she said she was sorry to go against their advice and wishes, but the funeral must take place at Ballynure.

"Ruth and I can see to it all, Mr. Vince," she faltered; "we must not trouble you."

"Of course it is necessary I should attend to the matter," answered Mr. Vince, rising in stern anger. He was not accustomed to be crossed; and from the first, as he thought, the dead woman and her daughter had disputed his will.

"Do not ask that girl to my house," he said to his wife. "The Boyles may do as they like; but I will sever the con-

nection now. She is as self-willed as her mother was foolish. Nothing but evil and annoyance can come of continuing the acquaintance."

"I did ask her," answered Mrs. Vince; "and she refused to come."

"All the better," retorted Mr. Vince.

If there be any truth in the old adage, Mrs. Boyle's corpse ought to have been happy exceedingly. On the day she was buried, a wild storm of wind and rain swept over the lonely graveyard where she elected to lie "among her own." From far and near the Vince clan gathered to do honour to one who had been, as a toothless old gentleman declared, the "flower of the flock." Mr. Vince, muffled up to his ears, scanned "his family" from beneath the shade of a huge umbrella, and decided he had never previously conceived there were so many Vinces on earth.

But they all treated him with great deference; and the clergyman, seemingly possessed by an idea that the rich man was broken-hearted by reason of his loss, shook hands in quite a touching way after the service, and said, "In the midst of life we are in death," and "We are here to-day and gone to-morrow," and "Comparatively quite a young woman, I understand;" while the country-side, assembled in force, collectively touched its hat, and felt greatly elated because Richard Charles recognised and stopped to speak with a few persons in the crowd.

"The poor mistress had as grand a funeral as heart need desire to see," sobbed Ruth, as she sat before a "neighbour woman's" fire, while her soaked garments were being dried; and popular opinion fully confirmed this statement. Mr. Vince had "done the business" thoroughly. He had disliked the idea of returning to the scenes of his youth—to the place where he and his had been so poor; but money so judiciously spent must have made an even worse experience pleasant.

There was no one who could have accused him of meanness in connection with his cousin's funeral. Everything was "befitting."

"If she had been a countess he could have done no more," was the unanimous verdict. Everyone was satisfied—even the Vinces, who had a carouse at the village public, paid for by Richard Charles. That good man and true, on the plea of being obliged to return at once to Belfast, declined to take so much as a crust with his relatives; but perhaps on this account they enjoyed themselves all the more.

"The girl will go to her father's relations," decided the Vince connection. "She'll be best out of Ireland after that trouble with young Muir."

"Perhaps she may refuse their offer," ventured one sceptic.

"Trust her!" was the answer; "she'll jump at the chance."

But when "the chance" offered Berna did not "jump at it."

For refusing the Dowager's offer she had her reasons—sentimental, of course, and influenced by the memory of her dead mother.

These reasons she rehearsed at length for the benefit of Mrs. Vince, who, without mentioning her intention to Richard Charles, went to Clear Stream in order to discuss the Cheltenham letter. Marcella listened to all the girl had to say, and then wrote to Mrs. Boyle,

"Give Berna a little time. Her wound is still very green and tender; besides which I really do think she cared greatly for young Muir, and would have married him had his relations been even ordinarily presentable."

So the Dowager waited; but Ulick Boyle's daughter made no sign.

Pretty Carline Crayland, who chanced to be stopping at Ardilaw, came to say, "Robert had bid her ask Miss Boyle whether she wouldn't stop with them for a while."

"It's a pleasant place we've got near Dumfries," she went on; "and you'd be quiet, and could just do as you liked. I did not care for it at first; but now I'm well content. The air is good, and I think the change would set up your health."

The offer was kindly meant and kindly put; but Berna shook her head. "I must think about earning my living," she answered; and that was the reply she likewise made to Mrs. Gray, who invited the girl for a week or two over to Bangor.

"Well, if you are still set to go out, and don't want any salary, I wouldn't say but we could get on together," suggested Mrs. Gray. "You might make yourself useful about the house."

Berna felt a very demon of pride stirring in her heart, but she did not actually say "No." She knew the certainty of daily bread was not to be despised—besides, this might prove an opening to something better. "Thank you," she said, "I will think of it."

"I'm in no hurry," returned Mrs. Gray; "take your own time."

So Berna stopped on at the cottage, "swithering," to quote her nurse, whether to go to Bangor or not. It was at this time she received an offer which fairly astonished her. It came from Miss Garnsey, who called at the cottage.

"I want a companion of my own age, sadly," explained that young lady. "I think we might get on together. Will you try whether we can or not? Papa makes no objection"—which assertion was indeed quite true, Mr. Garnsey having added, it would be a "comfort to see a pretty face about the house for once." "Let me drive you over to Beechfield, and you shall see whether you like the old place."

Berna did not wait five minutes—she did not wait one—before closing with this offer. She asked no time to consider; she took no advice.

"I shall be glad to go to you," she said, simply.

"That is right; when may I come back for you? To-morrow?"

"Yes—If you like," hesitated Berna.

"Oh, *I* shall like: to-morrow, then!" and Miss Garnsey went off laughing.

"I hope it may be for your good, my lamb," said Ruth; but she said it doubtfully.

"Gone to Beechfield, is she?" remarked Mr. Muir, when Bell told him the news. "Faith, maybe she'd reasons best known to herself for giving my son the go-by."

"Ay," capped Miss Muir, "Lyle Garnsey would be a husband worth having, with Beechfield at his back. *But she hasn't got him yet.*"

"Going to Beechfield," thought Mrs. Vince, as she folded up Berna's letter; "I wonder how she will like that? It is a mistake, but I must try to make the best of the matter to the old lady."

(To be continued.)

The honorary degree of Doctor of Laws has been conferred by the University of Cambridge on M. Waddington, whom the Public Orator introduced as a thoroughly French patriot, and still one who felt warmly for his English University.—At a Congregation held on the 12th inst. the degree of Honorary Doctor of Letters was conferred by the University upon Mr. Redhouse, the Orientalist, and Mr. Stephens, Professor of Old English at Copenhagen. Prince Albert Victor was present, and was warmly cheered.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications relating to this department of the Paper should be addressed to the Editor, and have the word "Chess" written on the envelope.

ALPHA.—Thanks for you note. Very few solvers discovered or noted the defence, 1. Q to Q 2nd, in No. 2096, and those who did refer to it were satisfied, as we were ourselves, with the continuation 2. Q to Q R 8th (ch).

W R B (Duffield).—We shall do what we can to disseminate the pleasing intelligence in the way you suggest, and have forwarded your letter to the honorary secretary of the City Chess Club, Mr. Adamson.

J G (Reims).—The omission of the last letter from Kt should not puzzle a tyro when the King cannot be moved to the square indicated. A solution is correct when it complies with the author's conditions, whether it is the same as his or not.

J H W C (Stratford).—See answer to J G.

CAM (Osborne).—The construction is neat, and, if the problem is found correct, it shall have a diagram.

T B K and F F B (Dublin).—Accept our thanks for the cards, and our cordial congratulations and good wishes.

S W (Liverpool).—We are much indebted to your courtesy for the game and the intelligence.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF C W 's ENIGMA received from Shadforth, Hereward, Emmo (Darlington), F M (Edinburgh), Carl Friedleben, J R (Edinburgh), Pierce Jones, T G (Ware), and Captain Baldock; of the Australian Problem from Pierce Jones; of No. 2096 from E J Posno (Haarlem), Henry Bristow, and Pierce Jones; of No. 2097 from T Gaffahin Junior, F M (Edinburgh), Pierce Jones, E J Posno, J R (Edinburgh), and W M N.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 2098 received from Shadforth, Hereward, George Joicey, T Gaffahin Junior, G L Mayne, A Wigmore, R Tweddell, H H Noyes, Ben Nevis, L Sharewood, Ernest Sharewood, Nerina, Jupiter Junior, F G Parsloe, N S Harris, B R Wood, E L Southwell, G Seymour, E Casella (Paris), T Sinclair, A M Porter, R Worters (Canterbury), Emmo (Darlington), W Hillier, G S Oldfield, L L Greenaway, Otto Fulder (Ghent), W Dowie, J A Schumacke, F M (Edinburgh), H A L S, R H Brooks, Rev. W Anderson, G H (Highgate), H Blackbeck, C S C-xe, R Gray, D W Kell, R Robinson, L Wyman, James Pilkington, Carl Friedleben, R T Kemp, T H Holdron, W Biddle, F and G Hewitt, Julia Short, C W Milsom, R J Vines, C M Gemond, Henry Bristow, Aaron Harper, M G Halloran, E Elsbury, J G Anstee, Hermit, E E H, Pierce Jones, Galahad, R D F, John Cornish, J Hall, T G (Ware), J Shearer, Dr F St, Alpha, Laura Greaves, W B C Treasure, A Chapman, Hoffede de Groot, A C Hunt, R Ingersoll, L Falcon (Antwerp), W J Rudman, and Gilbert Huskisson.

NOTE.—This problem cannot be solved, as some correspondents suggest, either by 1. Q to K 2nd, or the advance of either of the White Pawns.

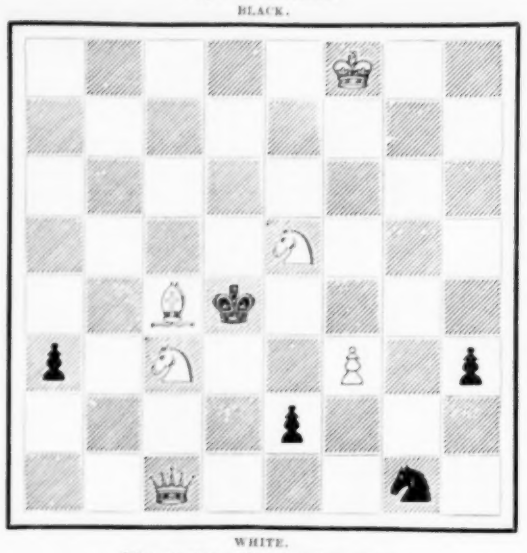
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 2097.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. B takes Kt	Kt takes B (best)
2. Q to K R 8th	Any move
3. Mates accordingly.	

PROBLEM No. 2100.

By EDWARD MAZEL.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

Played in the second competition for the Liverpool Silver Challenge Cup, between Messrs. EDGAR and GREEN.

(Irregular Opening.)

WHITE (Mr. E.)	BLACK (Mr. G.)	WHITE (Mr. E.)	BLACK (Mr. G.)
1. P to Q B 4th	P to Q B 4th	Lost time. 11. P to K R 3rd at once would have been much more useful.	
2. Kt to Q B 3rd	Kt to K B 3rd	11.	Kt to K Kt 5th
3. P to K 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd	12. P to K R 3rd	P to K R 4th
4. Kt to K B 3rd	P to K 3rd	13. Q to B 2nd	Kt to Q 5th
5. B to K 2nd	P to Q Kt 3rd	Very well played, and leading to a neat finish.	
6. Castles	B to Q Kt 2nd	14. P takes Q Kt	B takes Kt
7. P to Q Kt 3rd	B to Q 3rd	15. P takes Kt	R P takes P
8. Kt to Q Kt 5th	Q to Kt sq	16. P to K Kt 3rd	R mates
9. B to Kt 2nd	P to Q R 3rd		
10. Kt takes B	Q takes Kt		
11. P to Q R 3rd			

A pretty little Skirmish, played recently, among many others, between Messrs. COKER and SKIPWORTH, at Tingewick Rectory.

(Centre Gambit.)

WHITE (Mr. C.)	BLACK (Mr. S.)	WHITE (Mr. C.)	BLACK (Mr. S.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	13. K to B sq	B to K B 4th
2. P to Q 4th	P takes P	Very forcible and very pretty.	
3. Q takes P	Kt to Q B 3rd	14. B to Q 3rd	Kt to Q 5th
4. Q to K 3rd	B to Kt 5th (ch)	Again very good. If 15. P takes Kt mate follows in two moves.	
5. P to Q B 3rd	B to R 4th	15. Q to Q sq	
6. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to K B 3rd	The White Queen is at home again, whither she should have repaired on the fourth move.	
7. Q Kt to Q 2nd	Castles		
8. B to Q B 4th	B to Q B 4th		
A slight mistake, which gives Black an opportunity for a pretty attack.			
8.	P to Q 4th	15.	Kt takes Kt
9. B to K 2nd		16. B to K 3rd	
If 9. P takes P, then follows 10. B to K sq		If 16. P takes Kt, Black mates in four moves by 16. B to R 6th (ch), &c.	
9.	P takes P	16.	Q R to Q sq
10. Kt takes P	Kt takes Kt	17. Q takes Kt	B takes B (ch)
11. Q takes Kt	R to K sq	18. K to Kt sq	B to Q Kt 3rd,
12. Q to B 2nd	Q to K 2nd		

and White, being a piece minus, with a bad position, now struck his flag.

We remind our readers that the Bath meeting of the Counties Chess Association will be held during the week commencing July 28 next. Mr. Skipworth informs us that since the publication of his letter he has received a handsome donation of £5 5s. from a gentleman well known in London, and several subscriptions of five shillings each. Every club in England should subscribe the five shillings asked for, at all events, and amateurs generally should support by their subscriptions an association that has done much for the spread of chess in this country. The Rev. A. B. Skipworth, Tetford, Horncastle, is the honorary secretary and treasurer.

The second competition for the Liverpool Silver Challenge Cup is now in progress, with twenty-six competitors in the list, including Mr. A. Burn, the present holder of the trophy, the Rev. J. Owen, and Mr. W. W. Rutherford, the president of the Liverpool Chess Club.

The Divan tournament seems to move slowly, and everyone will regret to hear that Mr. Blackburne, who has been among the competitors, is again stricken down with illness. Mr. I. O. Howard Taylor, the promoter of the National testimonial to Mr. Blackburne, informs us that he has received a sympathetic letter from Baron Kolisch, covering a donation of £5 5s. for the fund.

We are indebted to the honorary secretary of the Paarl (Cape of Good Hope) Chess Club for a copy of the *Paarl Advertiser*, from which we learn that a correspondence match, which has been in progress since August last year, between the Paarl and Frazerburg clubs, has been won by the former. The Paarl club is now engaged in a match by correspondence with Mossel Bay.

We have received a printed circular from Mr. H. E. Bird, which states that some friends of that gentleman are desirous of "presenting him with a testimonial," and inviting subscriptions for the purpose. The circular is signed by Mr. J. I. Minchin, honorary secretary of the St. George's Chess Club, and Messrs. Herbert Baldwin and C. C. Davison, who are willing to receive subscriptions.

The top scores in the Divan tournament as we go to press are as follow:—

Section A.		Section B.	
Donnisthorpe	5	Gunsberg	5½
Trenchard	4½	Hirsch	5
Mason	3½	Guest	4
Macdonnell	3	Blackburne	3½

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

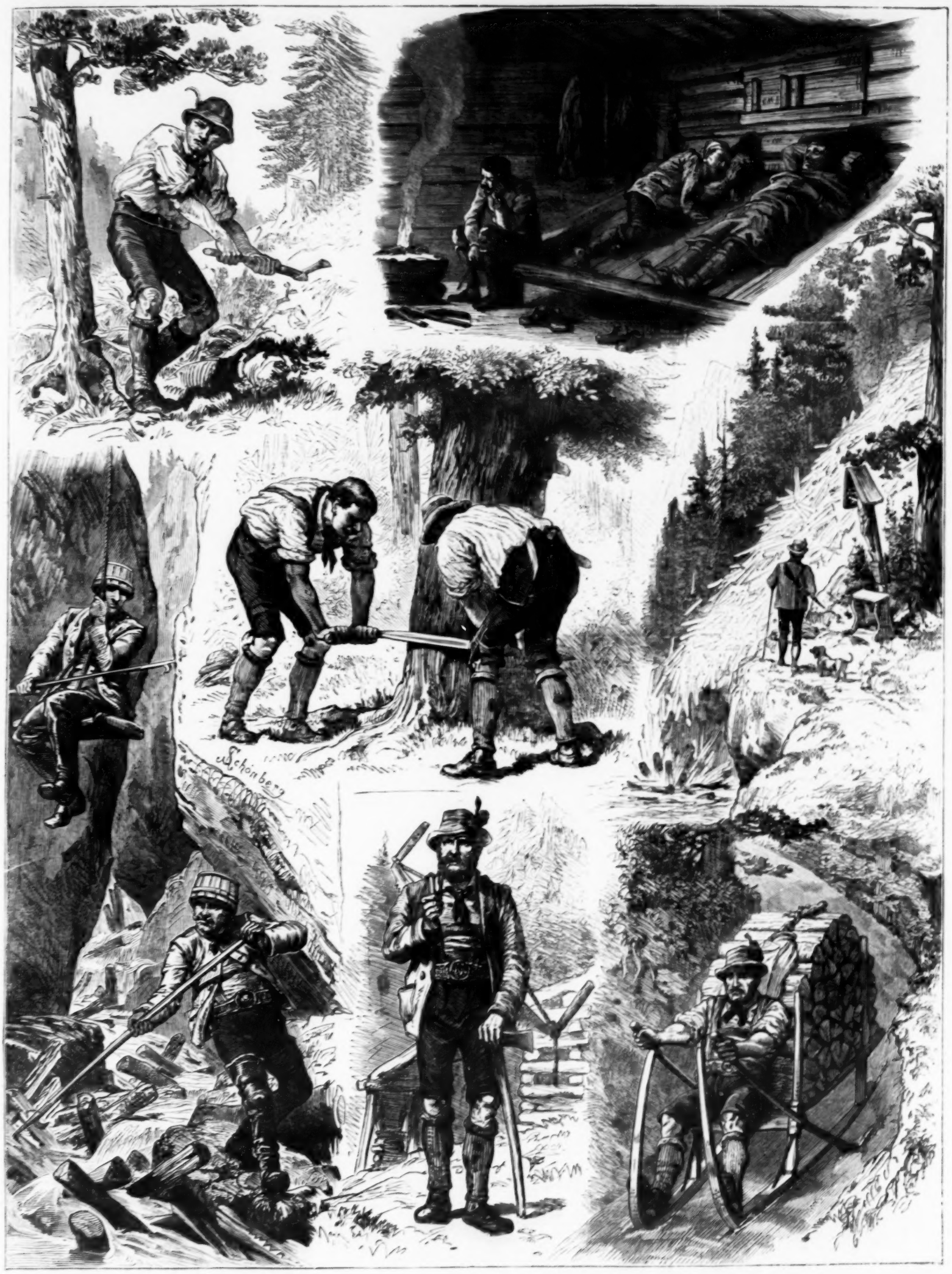
The will (dated Aug. 24, 1882), with a codicil (dated Sept. 9 following), of the Right Hon. John William, Earl of Sandwich, P.C., Lord Lieutenant of the county of Huntingdon, late of Hinchingbrook, Huntingdonshire; of Hook, Dorset; and of No. 46, Grosvenor-square, who died on March 3 last, was proved on the 22nd ult. by Lord Hylton and Mr. Edward Birkbeck, the executors, the value of the personal estate exceeding £338,000. The testator devises all his manors, messuages, lands, and hereditaments in England, Ireland, or elsewhere, to the use of his eldest son, Edward George Henry (the present Earl), for life, with remainder to his first and other sons successively according to seniority in tail male. All his furniture, plate, pictures, and effects are made heirlooms to go with the settled estates. There are special bequests to his wife, daughters, and to his two younger sons, Captain the Hon. Victor Alexander Montagu, R.N., and Major the Hon. Oliver George Powlett Montagu; and legacies to his executors, land steward, house and farm servants, and others. He also bequeaths £1000 each to the Huntingdonshire County Hospital and the Dorset County Hospital. The residue of the personalty he leaves to his said two younger sons. If he should succeed by the death of the Duke of Cleveland, under the will of the Duchess of Bolton, to a certain sum of £163,000, he gives thereout £50,000 to each of his three sons, and the remainder to his wife and daughters.

The will (dated June 21, 1880) of the Right Hon. Fulke Southwell, Baron Greville, late of Clonyn Castle, Delvin, in the county of Westmeath, and of No. 39, Lowndes-square, who died on Jan. 25 last, was proved on the 15th ult. by the Marquis of Salisbury, Marquis de la Bédoyère, and Sir Reginald Henry Graham, Bart., the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to upwards of £64,000. The testator leaves to his wife his furniture and effects at Clonyn Castle, with a carriage and pair of horses; he also leaves to her, for life, certain properties purchased by him in the county of Westmeath, and at her death they are to pass with the Westmeath estates of his late father-in-law, the Marquis of Westmeath. The Mullingar and Clanhugh estates in the same county he devises to his eldest son and successor in the title, Algernon William, for life, with remainder to his grandson, Ronald Henry Fulke Greville, charged, however, with the payment of £300 per annum to his son Robert Southwell for life, and of £300 per annum to his said grandson until he succeeds to the estates. As to the residuary personal estate under the will of his grandfather, William Fulke Greville, he appoints £6000 to his son Patrick Emilius John; and the remainder thereof to his daughter Mildred Charlotte, Marquise de la Bédoyère; a further sum of £16,000, in settlement, is appointed equally to his four surviving younger children. There are legacies to his brother, nephews, nieces, godson, land steward, and two gamekeepers, and the residue of his property he gives to his said daughter.

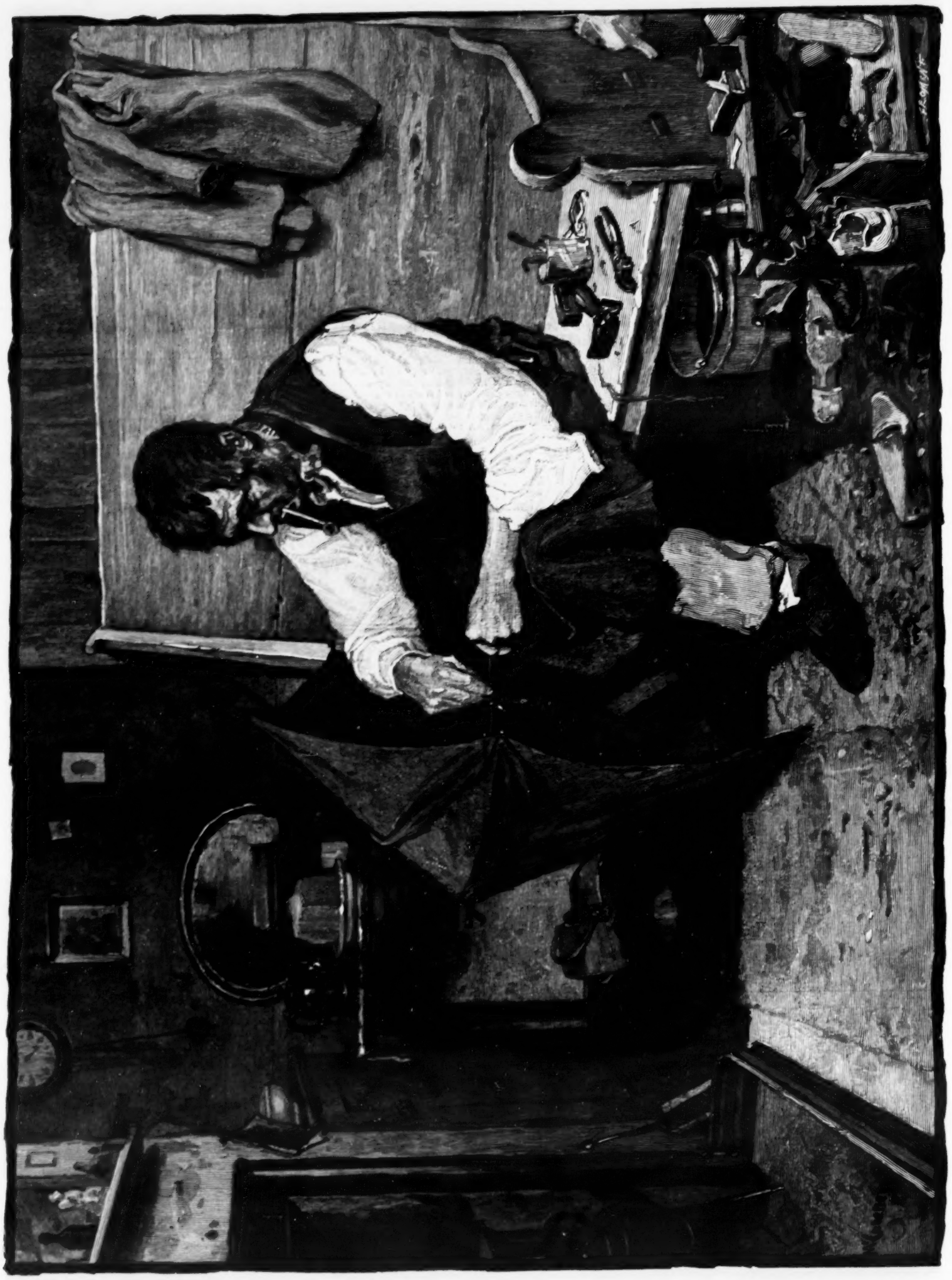
The will (dated Feb. 7, 1882), with two codicils (one bearing even date with the will and the other Oct. 30 following), of the Hon. Mrs. Mary Stapleton-Bretherton, late of The Hall, Rainhill, Lancashire, and of Lackham, Wilts, who died on Dec. 22 last, was proved at the Liverpool district registry on the 31st ult. by Mr. George Errington, M.P., Nugent Chichester, Major William Nicholson, and Edward William Woods, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £373,000. The testatrix devises certain lands and houses at Middleton Tyas, and Richmond, Yorkshire, to John Gerard Riddell, and settles her Wiltshire estates on Mr. Errington; the pictures and works of art at Lackham are made heirlooms to go with the estate; and the furniture and other effects there, and all her wine, wherever it may be, she gives to Mr. Errington absolutely, who also gets a pecuniary legacy. The Hall, Rainhill, her Lancashire estates, and the residue of her freehold property, she leaves to her trustees for five years, and then to Frederick Bretherton, for life, if his wife, Mrs. Isabella Mary Bretherton, formerly Petre, shall so long live and there shall be issue of their marriage, with remainder to his eldest son. The person who succeeds to her Lancashire estates and residuary freehold property is to take her name and arms; and if any person succeeds to the said estates who is not or ceases to be a Roman Catholic, or marries anyone not a member of that Church, the property is to go to the person next entitled under the settlement: there is a similar condition to this latter with respect to her Wiltshire estates. The pictures, works of art, lace, and other articles, at Rainhill, are made heirlooms to go with the estate, and the remainder of the furniture and effects are given to the person who shall succeed to the property. The testatrix bequeaths £100 each to the Lancashire Secular Clergy Fund and the Royal Infirmary, Brownlow-street, Liverpool; £3000, upon trust, to maintain a Roman Catholic priest at Chippenham; £2000 to the trustees of St. Bartholomew Roman Catholic Church, Rainhill; a sum not exceeding £2000, if she has not given it in her lifetime, for the erection of an entrance and other works at the same church; and a further sum, not exceeding £1300, if she has not paid it in her lifetime, to thoroughly repair the said church. There are numerous other legacies and directions; and all her consols, railway stock, and the residue of the personalty are settled in a similar manner to her Lancashire and residuary freehold estates. [It will be seen that there is no foundation for the statement which has been going the round of the papers to the effect that the testatrix left nearly half a million sterling to the Pope. Like many similar paragraphs which by some strange means obtain circulation, it turns out to be altogether false, the will not containing a word about the Pope.]

The will (dated Aug. 17, 1882), with a codicil (dated Feb. 18, 1884), of the Rev. Edmund Hollond, late of No. 33, Hyde Park-gardens, and of Benhall Lodge, Suffolk, who died on March 19 last, was proved on the 21st ult. by Mrs. Fanny Steevens Hollond, the widow, and John Robert Hollond, M.P., and Arthur Edward Holland, the sons, three of the executors, the value of the personal estate exceeding £334,000. The testator leaves to his wife all his advowsons except the advowson of the Vicarage at Benhall, the portrait of his son Francis Egbert by Sant, and all the furniture, pictures, and effects at his town residence absolutely; and his said residence and £55,000, for life, in addition to the income of £66,000 already settled upon her. All his manors, messuages, and hereditaments, including the advowson of the Vicarage at Benhall, are settled upon his eldest son, Edmund William; certain pictures at his mansion-house at Benhall are made heirlooms to go with the property; and the remaining pictures, with all the furniture, plate, and effects, he gives to the person who shall succeed, at his death, to the said settled estates. The fortunes of his four daughters are made up to £35,000 each, and all the property to which he is entitled under the wills of his father and brothers, on the death of his sister, Mrs. Blackden, he leaves to his eight children. The residue of the personalty, subject to some legacies to his indoor and outdoor servants, he gives to his four sons.

The Grocers' Company have made a donation of £100 to the fund for the new central premises and home for young men in connection with the Church of England Young Men's Society.



WOOD-CUTTING IN THE FORESTS OF AUSTRIA AND BAVARIA.



"SHOULD AULD ACQUAINTANCE BE FORGOT?"—DRAWN BY E. M'CUTCHEON.

WOOD-CUTTING IN AUSTRIA AND BAVARIA.

The mountain districts of South Germany, Upper Austria, the Tyrol, Bukowina, Croatia, Slavonia, Bosnia, and Transylvania abound in forests, which cover nearly one third of the whole productive area of the Austrian Empire, more especially on the slopes of the Alps and Carpathians, and also of the Hercynian range. They consist mostly of oak, ash, beech, elm, and other valuable timber trees, to the elevation of 4000 ft., above which the pine, fir, and larch grow on the upper ground to about 2000 ft. higher. The superintendence of these forests is an important department of the Austrian Imperial Government service, and they yield a considerable revenue. The quantity of timber they supply yearly is estimated at not much less than seven and a half thousand millions of cubic feet, and the annual export of timber amounts in value to more than three and a half millions sterling, besides what is used for the Austrian furniture, cabinet-making, and other manufactures, and for building. In Bohemia and Bavaria, on both sides of the mountain range which divides those two countries from each other, the beech and pine forests are of great extent, and their wood is one of the chief articles of trade. Our Artist, a native of Austria, contributes a series of Sketches illustrating the life and work of the men employed in this department of industry, which is frequently referred to in tales of German romance. The interior of a hut at night, with two weary woodcutters lying down to sleep on their hard plank bed, while a third man is watching the fire, will attract the reader's notice. For the saving of cost and labour in the conveyance of wood down to the plains, they resort to various expedients, according to the local situation. In some places, if there is a stream of sufficient force at a convenient distance, the logs of wood, or heaps of smaller cuttings, shaped as may be required for the market, are tumbled into the rushing water; and men follow its course, to reach which, in some deep ravine, they may have to be let down by ropes from the cliff above, with billhooks in their hands to catch at stray logs drifting out of the channel, and to guide their descent in its tortuous and rugged way for a length of many miles. A regular slide has been constructed down some of the mountain sides; and in winter, being covered with snow, the woodman's sledge runs down its smooth incline, like a "tobogrin" in Canada, with amazing ease and swiftness, carrying a load of trim logs firmly bound with ropes or chains, as is shown in one of these Sketches.

NEW BOOKS.

Under the attractive title, *In Sunny Switzerland*, Mr. Rowland Grey presents "A Story of Six Weeks," in a little volume published by Kegan Paul, Trench, and Co., which we commend to fair readers. It may be, as the author's name was hitherto unknown to the public, a first literary effort; and if this be the case, Rowland Grey's friends may congratulate him upon having given proof of a genuine talent for writing such tales of domestic life. He has a firm but light hand for the drawing of his characters, a singular insight into the feelings and thoughts of girls, and a tolerable knowledge of the habits of men, and of the ways of the world. The plan of this short story, though very simple, has sufficient dramatic interest. Eleanor and Verna Dalkeith, daughters of a hard-working London medical man, a widower, are taken by their father to enjoy a brief holiday on the shores of the Lake of Geneva. Meanwhile, in the Lancashire manufacturing town of Coalport, a rich old bachelor, an occasional patient of Dr. Dalkeith's, having tender recollections of a deceased aunt of Verna, bequeaths his money to this young person, disinheriting his own nephew, Carl Engledew. Now it so happens that Carl Engledew, who is an idle, heartless young fellow, accompanied by Kenneth Lade, a young Dublin physician, who is good and true, as well as clever, meets the Dalkeith family in their Swiss tour. Hence the experienced novel-reader will at once perceive how interesting relations may be imagined to arise between youth and maiden in these circumstances; and how the sudden revelation of a change of pecuniary prospects is likely to affect the conduct of some parties concerned. We shall not, however, betray the further development of the plot, which leads to some pathetic and mournful passages, and involves some incidents of Alpine disaster, but with compensating final satisfaction in the quiet happiness of one of the two sisters. It is a wholesome and generally pleasant tale, conceived with originality and skilfully composed.

The sonnet is a form of poetical literature which of late years has excited considerable interest. *Three Hundred English Sonnets*: chosen and edited, with a few notes, by Daniel M. Main (Blackwood and Sons), are gathered almost wholly from a thick volume called "A Treasury of English Sonnets," published a few years ago by the same editor. The present book is, therefore, a selection from a selection. The former work contained a vast number of sonnets, including the best, and, we may almost add, the worst, in the language; but the information contained in the copious and interesting notes of the "Treasury" made it valuable for reference. The volume now issued differs little from earlier anthologies except in bulk. On taking up Mr. Dennis's selection—the first in point of time of several recently issued—we are struck by the resemblance between the volumes. From about ten authors, the sonnets chosen are the same in both cases. In several other instances the difference is to be found only in greater copiousness on the part of Mr. Main. The ten sonnets of Milton, for example, given by Mr. Dennis are also here, with three in addition; from Keats, seven sonnets stand in the earlier volume, eight in this, six being alike in both; from Hartley Coleridge Mr. Dennis takes ten, which Mr. Main takes also; but he adds four. Other illustrations of the similarity of the volumes might be given, but these will suffice. It is obvious, of course, that a marked individuality of taste on the part of an editor cannot be displayed in a sonnet-anthology. Supposing a wise choice be made by one editor, another coming later into the field is bound to make it again. At the same time, it is a fair question whether addition to quantity adds to the value of a book, every page of which should contain a poetical gem. A tolerable sonnet, says Archbishop Trench, is the most intolerable thing of all; and it is almost needless to say that in a volume containing three hundred there are some that deserve that designation. Now and then we come upon one to which a stronger epithet might be applied. The extravagance of imagery and grotesqueness of taste that mark some of the Elizabethan sonneteers is conspicuously seen in Drummond's poem "The Magdalen," which appears in Mr. Main's selection. The woman's locks of hair are described in this sonnet as

> Smooth-frizzled waves, sad shelves which shadow deep,
> Soul-stinging serpents in gilt curls which creep,

a couplet which is on a level with the worst conceits perpetrated by Quarles or Crashaw. The editor has, we think, judged wisely in not including the sonnets of living writers, and we may add that the beautiful appearance of his volume eminently fits it for a gift-book.

"SHOULD AULD ACQUAINTANCE BE FORGOT?"

Surely this is more and better than an old acquaintance—a good and useful old friend, the umbrella which has kindly sheltered a man, or perhaps, upon some occasions, his wife or one of his children, in the pouring rain of many past seasons. Common gratitude for such long-tried service, as well as thrift in saving the purchase of a new one, should prompt the owner to try his hand at mending the battered protector of so many rough walks in foul weather. There was a time, indeed, not much above a hundred years ago, when no Scotchman of the rustic working classes would have possessed such an article, but would have felt safe and snug enough in his clothing of thick grey homespun, with the addition, when needful, of a stout plaid tshied over his breast. As he then wore no tall hat, but a broad bonnet of cloth, while the head-dress of women might be a simple kerchief, it would only be necessary to draw the plaid up at the back of the neck, to obtain a more effectual covering than any umbrella can possibly afford. The nineteenth century is apt to boast of its "resources of civilisation," but they generally seem, in these particulars, to be imperfect and inconvenient, as well as costly, modern substitutes for the ancient costume and habits of our forefathers; and we are inclined to believe that the introduction of the umbrella into England, by Jonas Hanway's example in 1750, would not have found favour, even in London, but for the silly fashion of wearing powdered hair or wigs. Though wigs and hair-powder have almost disappeared, the universal adoption of cylindrical silk hats, to which European respectability is now enslaved in city life, has kept up the troublesome necessity for umbrellas. But we must take the world as we find it in our time; and, since the umbrella has become a familiar companion, nobody would like to do without it. The disasters to which it is liable from the violence of the wind are but too well known in our common experience; the flimsy dome of cotton, gingham, alpaca, or aristocratic silk is suddenly turned inside out by a furious gust at the street-corner, when the wire stretchers are torn from their fastenings, and will soon either be snapped asunder or will pierce holes in the textile fabric of the portable tent. The task of replacing them in their proper position, and of securing their ends to the whalebone ribs, and to the sliding ring upon the central stick, requires a certain degree of practical knowledge and skill in handicraft, which few persons not in the trade can apply with perfect success. Our friend in the drawing which we have engraved is evidently a dexterous and expert disciple of the doctrine of "self help," who can save a shilling by doing the job for himself.

Mr. Justin Huntly M'Carthy (son of Mr. Justin M'Carthy, M.P.) was on the 12th inst. returned for Athlone, without opposition, in succession to the late Sir John Ennis.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, and the Lord Mayor, M.P., as trustees of the fabric of St. Paul's Cathedral, have approved a design for a new statue of Queen Anne, in white Sicilian marble, which, by the generosity of the Corporation, will replace the effigy which has for so many years disfigured the front of the cathedral.

A meeting took place at the Mansion House, on the 12th inst., in support of a movement for erecting a memorial to the late Sir Bartle Frere. The Duke of Cambridge presided, and among the speakers were Sir R. Temple, Mr. W. E. Forster, M.P., the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Earl of Carnarvon, and Lord Aberdare. The subscriptions amounted to £1500.

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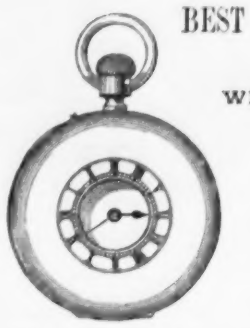

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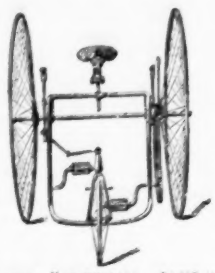

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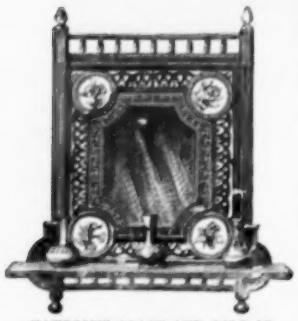

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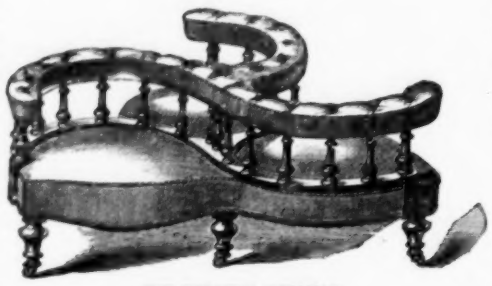

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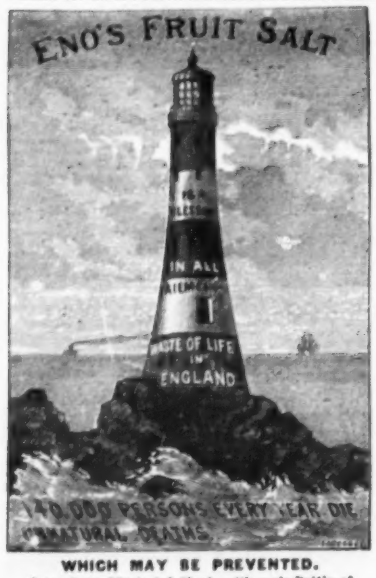

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WHICH, LIKE THE BRITTLE GLASS

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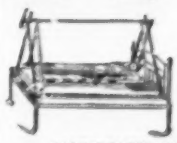

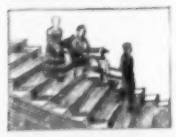

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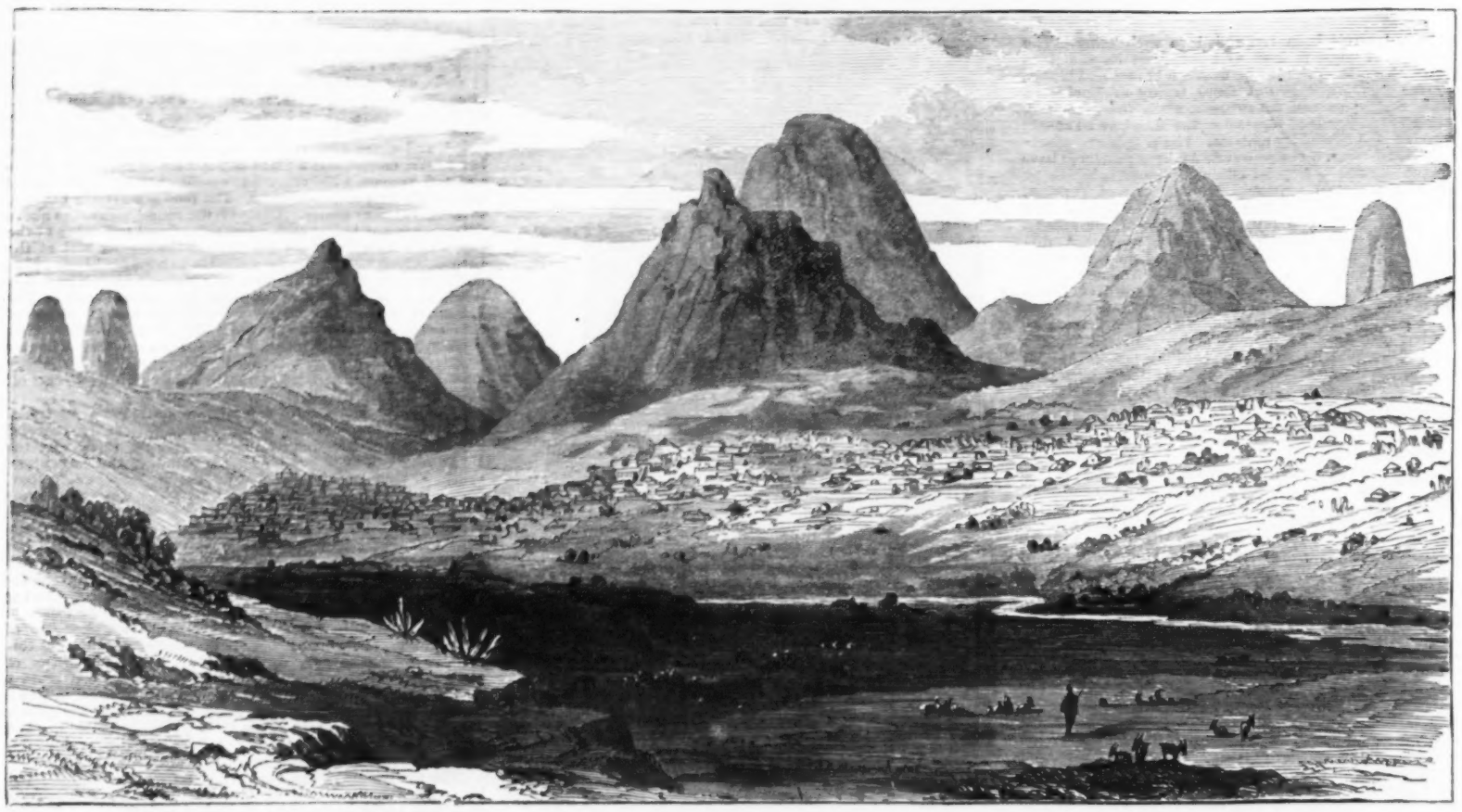
SKETCHES IN ABYSSINIA.

BY WILLIAM SIMPSON, SPECIAL ARTIST WITH THE EXPEDITION IN 1868.

The recent visit of Admiral Sir William Hewett to Abyssinia, and his negotiations with King John, the monarch of that singular East African country, in order to obtain his co-operation for the relief of the Egyptian garrisons and some imperilled Europeans in the Soudan, have revived public interest in Abyssinia, and have induced us to present some Illustrations of the subject in this Extra Supplement. Since the British military expedition commanded by General Sir Robert Napier, now Lord Napier of Magdala, terminating in the defeat and death of King Theodore, in April, 1868, the country has been ruled by a personage then known as Prince Kassai of Tigre, but now styled King John of Abyssinia, with whom General Gordon had some dealings in 1878, and who has been more than once at war with the Khedive of Egypt. But there has been little change in the internal condition of Abyssinia, or in the manners and customs of its people.

Abyssinia may be geographically defined as the northern part of the highland region in Eastern Africa, one side of which, to the southward, pours forth the Abai or Blue Nile, while the other side, towards Nubia, sends down the Atbara, with other rivers, whose yearly sudden increase of waters, added in due season to the steady flow of the Nile, causes the fertilising inundation of Egypt. It is situated nearly opposite the south-west corner of the Arabian promontory, on the other side of the Strait of Bab-el-Mandeb, at the entrance to the Red Sea. It lies in about the same longitude with Moscow, and in about the same latitude with Madras. Its dimensions are almost equal to those of France, being 400 miles long from north to south, and nearly 300 miles broad from east to west. It is separated from the coast of the Red Sea and Indian Ocean by a strip of lower land, stretching along the foot of the mountain range which incloses Abyssinia like a wall on every side. Including the mountain passes, this border territory is sixty or seventy miles wide at its narrowest part, to which the shores of Annesley Bay and the islet and port of Massowah belong. Massowah had long been a Turkish possession, but during the last twenty years has been held, like Souakim, by the Viceroy of Egypt, in feudal subordination to the Sultan. On the northern and western sides also the Abyssinian frontier, defended on the north side by still loftier mountains, adjoins the Egyptian territories of Soudan and Sennaar, consisting of vast plains inhabited by various Arab and negro tribes. The other towns of note, the halting-places of wandering merchants and the market-places of cattle drovers or huntsmen, are Kassala, the residence of the Bey of Taku, Gedarif, and Metemma. Through this vast territory almost all the rivers of Abyssinia pass into the Nile; not one of them passes into the Red Sea, because of the high mountains closing up the country on its eastern side. The table-land within this natural inclosure is nearly level, at an average height of seven thousand feet above the sea, but inter-

KING JOHN OF ABYSSINIA.



ADOWA, THE CAPITAL OF ABYSSINIA.

SKETCHES IN ABYSSINIA.

sected by deep ravines cut right across the land from east to west, the sides of which are precipitous, and their bottoms, as in the valleys of the Jiddah and the Bashilo, often three or four thousand feet below the general surface. On its western side this country slopes down or falls by broken and rugged steps to Lake Tsana, or Dembea, a sheet of fresh water about fifty miles in diameter, which is at a level of six thousand feet above the sea. The Blue Nile, or Abai, issues from the lake, and sweeping around the southern provinces, Godjam and Damot, curves again to the north-west, proceeding to Khartoum. It is joined by the Jiddah and Bashilo, from the mountains of Lasta; and afterwards in Kwara, the most westerly Abyssinian province, by the Rahad and the Dender. The rivers taking a northerly direction from the Abyssinian plateau are the Mareb, or Gash, which passes by the Egyptian town of Kassala; the Takazze, rising in Lasta, not far from the source of the Bashilo, and assuming, in its lower course through Soudan, the name of the Settit; and the Salama, which ultimately combines with the Settit to form the mighty Atbara. Only a few small and insignificant rivers enter Lake Tsana. The situation of Abyssinia, notwithstanding its fertility and fine climate, and its nearness to the Red Sea, is thus very unfavourable to free intercourse with its neighbours. Abyssinia is divided naturally into two provinces, which are peopled by two different nations. The northern and eastern parts, including the Alpine regions of Semyen and Lasta, which may be compared to Switzerland and the Tyrol, form the province of Tigre, whose boundary is the river Takazze. The southern and western parts on the left bank of the Takazze, with the shores of Lake Tsana and the Abai, or Blue Nile, compose the province of Amhara. In general, the Tigre people are Highlanders; the Amhara people are Lowlanders;

ALI, A SHOHO OF THE DANAKIL TRIBE.

and they have scarcely been reconciled to each other. The upland country of Tigre is bare and poor, but its climate is healthy and invigorating. Though between 11 deg. and 15 deg. north of the Equator, it is not more trying to Europeans than that of Spain; only in the autumn, when the rains have soaked the decayed masses of vegetation, the Mareb and Takazze valleys are infested by deadly malaria. The people are generally hardy and robust. The southern Amhara provinces have a very fertile soil and a tropical climate. Their inhabitants, and those of the central provinces, Begemeder and Dembea, are richer and more civilised than the natives of Tigre. The language used in Tigre is a corrupt dialect of the ancient Geez, but mixed with Hebrew and Arabic words. A different language, though it contains many of the same words more or less changed, is spoken by the Amhara population, as well as in Shoa, and by the Agows of Lasta. All these nations belong to one branch of the Coptic Christian Church of Egypt; but the inhabitants of Tigre seem to have derived many Jewish notions and ceremonies from a settlement of exiled Jews, who removed hither out of Arabia, some time before the Mohammedan conquest of Western Asia. This is the most probable historical explanation of many peculiarities in Northern Abyssinia; but it does not satisfy the Abyssinians themselves. They universally believe, throughout the whole kingdom, that the best blood of the country, its royal and aristocratic races, can have had no meaner source than King Solomon, who had a son, named Menelek, by the Queen of Sheba, Azeb or Maqueda, reigning over their country. They declare that Menelek, succeeding Queen Azeb, twenty-five years afterwards, went to visit Jerusalem, and was crowned, in Solomon's Temple, King of Ethiopia. Menelek then returned to his own land, with a numerous company of the first-born of Israel and Judah, who received a share of the divine blessing vouchsafed to the Jewish nation. It is held, therefore, by the Abyssinians, that the faith of Christianity, first imparted to them by the Apostle Philip, through the eunuch who was treasurer to Candace, Queen of Ethiopia, was engrafted on their previous Judaism.

In their appearance, strength, activity, and natural intelligence, the natives of Abyssinia are scarcely inferior to any of the Eastern races. Though of dark complexion, which, indeed, ranges, in this mixed population, from copper-colour to olive, and, in some cases, almost to black, they have none of the negro peculiarities of feature. They are of good stature, and handsomely shaped. The dress of an Abyssinian gentleman consists of a pair of tight cotton breeches; a belt of cotton, which may be from twenty to sixty yards long, wrapped many times around his chest, and serving for defence; and a sort of

INSIGNIA OF THE ORDER OF SOLOMON'S SEAL.

loose toga, called the quarry or shama, which is formed of three pieces of white cotton sewn together, with a broad red stripe at the lower edge; a sheepskin dyed black, a leopard's or lion's hide, is thrown over the shoulders as a tippet. The robe of an Abyssinian lady is of similar form, but differently put on; she wears also a mergeff, or scarf of fine muslin, often embroidered with coloured silk, instead of the fur tippet. Neither the men nor the women have any head-covering except their luxuriant hair. This, which is not woolly like a negro's, is plaited in long tresses from the top of the head, and copiously smeared with butter; the poor use any other grease they can get. Shoes or slippers are but rarely worn. Silver necklaces, bracelets and anklets, with rings on the fingers, and ornamental hair-pins, are the fashionable decorations of the female sex; but a man usually wears no more than a necklace, containing some engraved pieces of stone or metal which have a talismanic virtue. A few of the women have their breasts and arms tattooed in various patterns. The full dress above described is, of course, changed when necessary, to give more freedom of action to the limbs; a tunic of cloth or leather is worn by soldiers in battle, and a labourer, or a woman of the lower class when at work, is stripped down to the waist. Soldiers are commonly armed with lances, six or seven feet long, curved swords, which they carry suspended to the right hip, and circular convex shields of rhinoceros hide; but King Theodore equipped a portion of his troops with matchlocks or muskets. An Abyssinian is never without his sword, or shotel, which he uses for a knife to cut his meat.

The houses commonly seen in Abyssinia are of two classes. Those of the peasantry are merely round huts, with conical roofs of straw thatch. Those of richer families are often, in such towns as Adowa, composed of several detached buildings within one inclosure. The principal apartment, called the adderash, forms the parlour and dining-room; the bed-room is a small alcove, at one side of it; and there is another recess, with a dais or raised floor, called the medeb, usually reserved for the ladies, and having a curtain before it. The kitchen is a separate hovel in the courtyard; another is the larder; a third is the brewhouse. The servants are lodged in several huts in the fore-part of the inclosure. In some districts, however, the large circular houses are ingeniously arranged to contain the several necessary apartments. There is an inner wall running all round, parallel to the outer wall, leaving a passage or space five or six feet wide, which is then divided by cross walls, and doors made opening into the central apartment; so that one section of the outer circle forms the medeb or harem; while another is appropriated for the kitchen or the storehouse. The walls are usually constructed of dried mud, with timber beams; and the roof is of boughs of trees covered with straw or leaves, mixed with clay and pressed

GOLDEN TRIPLE CROWN OF THE ABOUNA.

down hard. A few large flat stones are perhaps laid on the top, to prevent the wind and rain destroying this flimsy covering. There are no windows or chimneys.

The furniture is extremely simple. The floor of a gentleman's house is strewn with hay or straw, which soon becomes sodden with all sorts of liquid messes. The seats are bundles of this, or very low stools; and a rude wooden stand, not much higher, forms the table, if there be any; but usually there is only a piece of carpet on the floor. Sometimes there is a bedstead or pallet, formed of strips of hide stretched across a light wooden frame, in the recess where the master sleeps. This couch, which is variously called the arat, the alga, or the zefan, may serve by day for a seat. If the mistress be a lady of taste and elegance, her medeb has a piece of foreign carpet, and its walls are hung with her bottles of scented pomatum. She has, instead of a pillow or cushion, one of those uncomfortable wooden head-rests, which were used by the ancient Egyptians, that her tresses may not be disarranged in the night. Huge earthenware jars, half sunk in the ground, contain the store of grain; other vessels hold the liquors they drink.

Their food, and manner of preparing it, should also be noticed. Several kinds of grain, including what they call teff, which is a cereal peculiar to this land, and dagousha, from which they brew their beer, are cultivated in most districts; but wheat, maize, and other valuable crops, are not much grown. The bread or cake is made extremely thin, and round, like a pancake, or like the Passover bread used by Jews in Europe. Wine is not made in Abyssinia; but there is a sour kind of beer, flavoured with the smoke of burnt bark; and a sort of mead from diluted honey, fermented and flavoured with certain herbs, which give it a bitter taste instead of a sweet; this

MAHOMED, A SHOHO OF THE DANAKIL TRIBE.

drink is called tej, and is the favourite Abyssinian beverage. The people seldom smoke tobacco, but take much snuff. The flesh of bulls, oxen, and cows, the cow-beef being preferred, as well as mutton and goat's flesh, is eaten in huge quantities and in a variety of ways. Raw beef, or broundo, as he calls it, is an Abyssinian's most dainty eating, and he likes it best when just killed, and warm with recent life. Few vegetables are eaten but lentils, onions, and a plant like spinach; capsicums, chilles and red pepper, with other hot condiments, make the sauces into which their meat is dipped. The food is served in baskets, without dishes or plates. A pile of the round thin cakes above described is put before each guest; the finest teff-cakes at the top, which he will eat for his bread; the coarser sort at the bottom, which he will use for a napkin to wipe his hands upon, and then give it to the servants as a waiter's fee. The boiled meat, or tebs, as they call it, and the cooked morsels like kabobs of mutton, highly sauced and rolled up in pieces of thin cake, are eaten first; while the guests, to show their courtesy, put these tit-bits into each other's mouths. The raw beef is then brought in, sliced in long strips; and every gentleman, taking one end of a strip between his teeth, cuts off a mouthful with his bloody sword.

The Abyssinians have no arts, manufactures, or trade. Pastoral and agricultural labours form their only peaceful employment. The only artificers amongst them are the Falashas, a colony of Jews, who are builders and carpenters, smiths or potters; and the Mohammedan weavers of cotton. The only merchants are the travelling Arabs, who come across this land from Massowah or Khartoum, to the rich tropical regions southward, and who bring slaves from the Galla country. There are fairs and markets in Abyssinia, but nowhere a shop. The ordinary coin here current is the Austrian dollar of the reign of Maria Theresa, preferred for the purity of its silver; with small blocks of salt, eight inches long, procured from the Danakil shore, or pieces of calico in Tigre, to serve for smaller money. The towns, some of which may contain each five or six thousand souls, are collections of mere huts, constructed of mud, sometimes of timber, or a wattle of boughs or reeds. No one can build a wall of mortared stone or brick. No one can make a cart or a boat; there are few boats used in Abyssinia. The navigation of Lake Tsana is by rafts made of bulrushes. Travelling and conveyance are done by the aid of horses, mules, or donkeys, over mere tracks, which are never made roads.

The cultivators of the land enjoy a perpetual tenure, but have to pay a fixed rent or tax, as under the zemindarree system in India, to the chief or lord of each district. It is he who rules the people, with the advice of a council of elders,

SKETCHES IN ABYSSINIA.

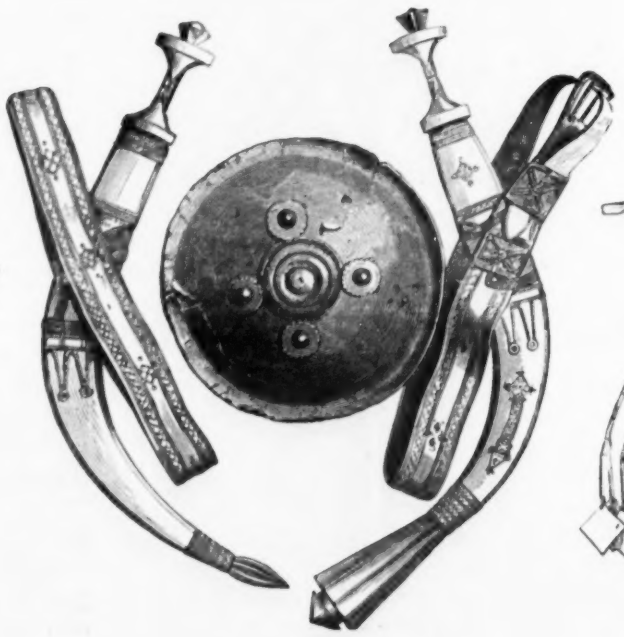
and through the agency of the head men, or hereditary borough-reeves, of the several villages subject to his sway. He also levies troops and leads them to war, in the service of his immediate prince or lord, according to the feudal constitution of the kingdom. But the people of the district are often compelled also to provide for whole regiments of the regular army, which the King may choose to quarter upon them. Besides this frequent infliction, they have to bear the heavy permanent imposts collected by the head-man of each community, and a variety of incidental forced contributions, both of labour and commodities. Such burdens are laid upon them whenever their lord comes to visit them; or has a birth, marriage, or death in his noble family; or sets forth on a journey; or takes office at the Royal Court. The rural inhabitants of Abyssinia are thus commonly reduced to great poverty; and their condition is still more depressed by the exactions of the priesthood.

The religion of Abyssinia, to which more than one allusion has been made, is a modification of the creed held by the Coptic and Greek Churches, with a large admixture of Judaism. The adoration of the Host, or Holy Sacrament, is accompanied by that of the Ark. It is believed, apart from the story of Queen Candace's eunuch, that Christianity was introduced by the mission of Frumentius, a Tyrian merchant, who received ordination from Athanasius, patriarch of Alexandria, in the year A.D. 327, and, making converts in Ethiopia, became the first Bishop of Axum. The monarch of this country, in whom ecclesiastical and temporal functions were united, became the subject of those fabulous rumours which in mediæval history surround the title of Prester John. Neither the Portuguese military adventurers in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, nor the Jesuit missionaries of a later date, ever succeeded in teaching the Abyssinians to acknowledge the spiritual supremacy of the Pope. They look up only to the Coptic Patriarch of Alexandria, from whom the Abouna, who is the high priest or Bishop presiding over the Abyssinian branch of the Church, must receive his official consecration. The residence of the Abouna was formerly at Gondar, but latterly at Adowa, in Tigre; and the late Abouna was kept a prisoner of State at Magdala. These grand ecclesiastics are bound to celibacy, while the rest of the clergy are married, as in the Greek or Russian Church. Both the monasteries and the churches are endowed with valuable landed estates, besides the profits of which, the parish priests or rectors get large incomes from the fees and gifts which they receive on a variety of occasions; for they officiate not only in public worship, in christenings, marriages, and funerals, but as registrars of sales and other secular transactions. Their learning is confined to some books of the Old and New Testament, with a few theological, devotional, and legal treatises. They do not allow the people to read the Gospels or writings of the Apostles, but only the Psalms of David. Many of the monks and others go as pilgrims to Jerusalem; and they cherish the hope of a future Crusade, by which a King of Christian Abyssinia will expel the Mohammedans from the Temple of Zion and the Sepulchre of Christ. The Christians of Abyssinia are bound to keep the Jewish Sabbath, as well as Sunday; to fast every Wednesday and Friday; to observe several Lents, and most of the fasts as well as festivals of the Greek and Roman Churches; to abstain from pork and other forbidden meat; and to worship the pictures of the Virgin and saints. Every Abyssinian male child must be circumcised eight days after birth, and baptised forty days after; the baptism in the case of a girl is after eighty days. Every Christian wears a blue thread round his neck, to show that he is not a Moslem or a Jew. Yet every one is proud to believe himself born of the holy seed of Israel; and they obey many prescriptions of Leviticus and Deuteronomy, from which other Christians are exempt.

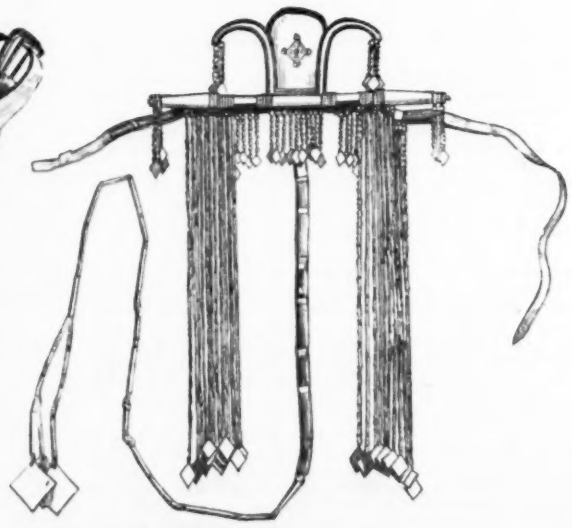
The churches in Tigre are built of a square form: in Lasta and Amhara they are round. There is a walled-in open space forming the churchyard and burial-ground, often planted with cypresses, cactuses, or any other trees, around the church. This usually stands upon an eminence, and is situated on the eastern side of the inclosure, the gate being on the western side. The church has a double door-

COSTUME OF A CHIEF.

LADY'S ORNAMENTS.



SHIELD AND SWORDS.



HEAD-DRESS FOR A CHIEF.

ABYSSINIAN CHURCH FURNITURE AND DECORATION.

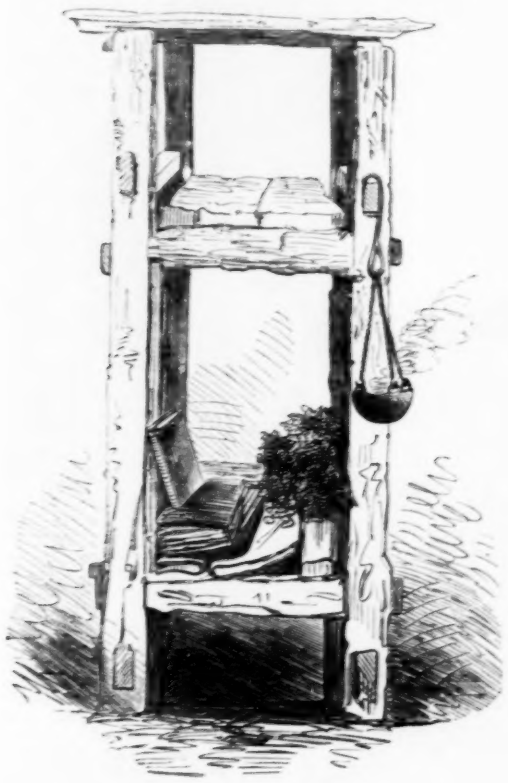
way, opening into the outer court, or Kunyaymalt, as it is called, which is formed by the projecting eaves or thatch of the roof, supported by posts outside the main wall of the building. A wall, not always up to the roof, surrounds this outer court. The men's entrance is through the left-hand doorway; the women's door is to the right. In the Kunyaymalt, the congregation assemble to sing psalms. On the left-hand side, in the north-west corner of the church, is a chamber called the Beatalehem, or House of Bread, where the priests make the bread and wine for the sacramental service. Within the outer court is the Kudist, or second court, which corresponds with the Holy Place in the Jewish Temple; and within this, again, farthest towards the east, is the Makdas, or Holy of Holies. This threefold division is, in fact, identical with that of the Tabernacle or Temple among the Jews. The walls of the Kudist are decorated with paintings of the Virgin and saints; or of scenes in Scripture history, such as the drowning of Pharaoh in the Red Sea, with Moses looking on from the shore, and menacing the King of Egypt with a cross. In the Makdas, which none but priests may enter, is the ark or tabot, formed usually of four upright timber pillars, or posts, about 8 ft. high, with a shelf, called the meuver, fixed midway down their height; at the bottom is a stone or marble slab, carved with mystic lines forming squares and crosses, and inscribed also with the name of the patron saint in black ink. Upon the shelf, which is covered with a cloth, are kept one or more volumes of the Scriptures, with the crosses and censers used in worship. Some of the crosses are of superior foreign workmanship, like the silver cross found at Goun-Gouna, upon which was engraved—"This cross of Christ belongs to Haira Mahalatieh (a Princess); whoever steals it, be he accursed;" or the copper cross, at Chaffa, which is of elaborate pattern, with a socket, to be fixed on a long pole, and carried in procession. Among the other implements of worship are the stone fonts, and a kind

PORTRAIT OF THE VIRGIN.

partner of the remainder of his existence. Such unions are never afterwards set aside, and the legitimate widow, even of a prince, may succeed to her husband's rank and possessions. Slavery is an institution of the country, the slaves being mostly Gallas or negroes imported by Mohammedan slave-traders.

The chief towns of Abyssinia, such as they were till almost destroyed by civil war, were Gondar, the old capital city; Tchenga, in the north-west; Ifak and Korata, on the eastern shore of the Lake; Zageh, on the western, opposite Korata; and Debra Tabor, with the old European settlement of Gaffat, upon the hills, about forty miles from Korata, and sixty from Gondar; all situated in the Amhara part of the kingdom. The ancient towns of the Ethiopian kingdom stood elsewhere; the ruins of Axum, its metropolis, which was known to the Greeks and Romans, are near Adowa, the present capital, in Tigre; and far to the south is Ankobar, the chief city of Shoa, which is also of ancient Ethiopian foundation.

The town of Adowa is described by European visitors as differing somewhat from others in Tigre. It is built of stone, with narrow, winding streets, on the ridge of a hill at the confluence of two rivers. The houses are surrounded by stone walls ten feet high; there is a convent, with privilege of sanctuary, besides three churches and burial-grounds; there is a large market, where all kinds of cattle, poultry, corn, and other rural produce, are sold, with iron, hardware, swords and spears, earthenware, leather, cotton cloth, and blankets, ornamental beads, and the usual blocks of salt. The population of Adowa, with its vicinity, has been reckoned at 10,000, including 300 Mohammedan weavers. Several Europeans, a German botanist, a Greek silversmith, and a French armourer employed by Prince Kassai, dwelt there many years. An old fort, called Fremona, not far from the



TABOT OR ARK.

COPPER CROSS.

PICTURE OF THE CRUCIFIXION.

of cymbals, formed of jingling metal rings attached to iron rods or hoops; but there are no bells, and the congregation is called together by the noise of two pieces of stone, hung up in the churchyard, which give a musical sound when knocked against each other. The central part of the church, or Makdas, is built with a loftier roof than the two outer courts, rising either in a conical form, or in a tower or dome. The ark is screened by a curtain from any chance of being seen by the congregation when the door of the Holy of Holies is opened.

The continual interference of the Church with the whole lives of individuals, from the cradle to the grave, justifies our notice of ecclesiastical matters. In marriages, it should be remarked, the ordinary sanction of the Church is not required. Social feasting and dancing, with the public presentation and acceptance of the bride, attended by her nearest relatives, in a bower decorated for the occasion, is reckoned a sufficient celebration; but the revelry is accompanied with many fantastic tricks. The bridesmen, or arkees, who wait upon the lady several days, are allowed not only to beg, but to steal everything they fancy may please her. When the Abyssinian is dying, he receives the last offices of the Church, and makes his will in the presence of his parish priest. His funeral is an affair of much noisy and costly pomp; the whole Psalter of David is recited from end to end, while the procession, on its way to the churchyard, halts seven times; and incense is burned, and prayers are offered, at each successive stage. Masses for the repose of the departed soul are subsequently repeated during forty days. All the members of the family, on each anniversary of the death, must yearly come and renew the mournful ceremony, with an artificial figure made to imitate a corpse, laid upon a bier, so that the funeral is performed again and again; but a merry feast and a fit of jovial intoxication are frequently the result.

Marriage of the ordinary kind in Abyssinia, which is a mere civil contract, may be dissolved at the caprice of either husband or wife; and a man takes any number of such wives at a time. But there is a more solemn and binding form of marriage, with ecclesiastical sanction, which is restricted to a single wife, whose children are entitled to precedence among his offspring. It is thus usual for a man, when he approaches old age, to select one of the women of his household, and by taking the sacrament with her in church, to make her an equal

SILVER CROSS.

town, was perhaps built by the Portuguese in the sixteenth century.

King John of Abyssinia, formerly Prince Kassai, is fifty-three years of age. He was the son of a former Governor of Temben, a province in the south of Tigre, but was related, through his mother, to Sabangadis, a famous prince of Agame, who conquered the whole of Eastern Abyssinia some fifty years ago, and reigned in glory and prosperity till 1831, when he was defeated and slain. The province of Tigre in 1861 had been committed by King Theodore to several governors, who proved unable to hold it, and some years afterwards it was seized by the Waagshum Gobazeh, Prince of Lasta, when young Kassai was one of his lieutenants, placed in charge of Enderta, another province of Tigre. But in 1867, while Gobazeh had enough to do in contending against Theodore, young Kassai revolted, and claimed for himself the supreme authority in Tigre. He found it easy, in 1869, after Theodore's downfall, to become the King of all Abyssinia, having had an interview with Sir Robert Napier on the return of the British Army from Magdala, and promised to behave in a friendly manner towards Englishmen, but he chose to treat General Gordon, ten years afterwards, with insolence and defiance, regarding him merely as an agent of the Khedive of Egypt.

Two of the figures represented in our sketches, the reader will see, are not proper Abyssinians, but are savages of the Danakil sea-coast. The whole number of adult males, or spears, in the Hazarota tribe is two thousand; in the Rassamo five hundred. The former dwell on the left or north bank, and the latter tribe on the right bank, of the Koomaylee torrent. Each is subdivided into three or four minor tribes, under different chiefs. They build no permanent villages, nor cultivate the earth, but drive their cattle from one pasture to another, and shelter themselves in such huts of boughs and grass as may be put up in a few hours. They are of less than the average stature, but slim and nimble; of dark complexion, with regular and even handsome features, and with a huge mass of woolly hair, which is worn in an extraordinary style, puffed out hugely on each side of the head, plastered with much grease, and ornamented with a long skewer.